

# THE CHRISTMAS WARCRY



## When They Saw The Star



Mother and Child



keeping  
by the  
sore  
you good  
in the city  
unto you;

And I  
and saying

And I  
another, "I  
which the  
Mary, and

one can possibly pay a  
the Holy Land at all  
without being profound  
is quite different to an  
especially to the devout  
the pious Jew. They  
seem to be quickened in  
as we gaze upon the signs  
where they were cast  
imagination going at full  
up pictures of varying  
Prophets, Priests and  
before one in solemn  
pageantry.

for instance, can stand  
Jerusalem, the Holy City,  
on its walls and towers  
time without being prostrate  
! There it stands to all, majestic in its solemn  
true, not the Jerusalem of  
Jerusalem of David, or  
the city whose streets  
by the feet of Him who  
of all its great ones.  
is buried under the  
centuries.

It is there to-day, and a  
its greatest beauty and  
far as its appearance  
wards this place the feet  
pilgrims move, and  
though scattered among  
of the earth yet look  
an national and spiritual  
and come towards it with  
singing:

forget thee, oh Jerusalem,  
in hand forget its curse,  
thee not above my head,

the sacred city by  
gates, and gazing  
it have the sacred  
our one by one, Zion  
and Mount Moriah,  
with its dome hidden  
Omar, and reflect  
spot probably A  
boy Isaac on that  
the Church of the Holy  
also pointed out to  
the city wall  
Hill far away, where  
crucified, who died

among men can look  
and scenes without fee  
reverence rising, an



## The Prophecy Fulfilled

And there were shepherds in the same country abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And the angel of the Lord stood by them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and goodwill toward men."

And it came to pass, as the angels went away from them the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing that is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

One can possibly pay a visit to the Holy Land at any time without being profoundly moved; it is quite different to any other specially to the devout Christian or the pious Jew. The Bible seems to be quickened into life as we gaze upon the sights and where they were cast, and imagination going at full play up pictures of varying color in Prophets, Priests and Kings before one in solemn and impressiveanty. For instance, can stand within Jerusalem, the Holy City, and on its walls and towers for time without being profounded! There it stands to-day on all majestic in its solemn dignity, not the Jerusalem of old; Jerusalem of David, of Solomon, the city whose streets were by the feet of Him who was of all its great ones. Their Son is buried under the debris centuries.

It is there to-day, and although

its greatest beauty and grandeur as its appearance goes,

wards this place the feet of mil-

lions of pilgrims move, and those,

tough scattered among all the

of the earth yet look towards

international and spiritual home;

I come towards it with break-

ers, singing:

Forget thee, oh Jerusalem, let

not hand forget its cunning if

shee not above my chief

the sacred city by one of

gates, and gazing around

we have the sacred places

one by one. We see

Zion and Mount Moriah, the

with its dome hidden by the

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a spot probably Abraham

Isaac on that fatal

Church of the Holy Sepulchre

also pointed out to us and

the city wall is that

far away, where our dear

crucified, who died to save

men can look on such

scenes without feelings of

reverence rising, and with-

## Christmas in the Holy Land

By Colonel Isaac Unsworth, International Headquarters

out seeing as it were coming out of this Jerusalem, the shadows of the past, when the Temple stood out in its shimmering whiteness, the palaces and gardens of Israel's Kings, and moving about in the Grottoes, Priests of the Living God in their beautiful garments on their way to offer up their sacrifices and enter into the Holy place where Deity came closer to men than ever before, and the Glory of Heaven was seen by mortals who trembled at the sight. Could we not hear the glorious singers singing their wondrous songs again, until in the pure enthusiasm of worship the crowds, giving way to their feelings, danced for joy! Again could we not see Him whose Name is sweetest walking about those streets with His simple disciples, preaching in the Temple and Synagogues with the crowd looking on Him, and the sick and sorrowing pleading before Him with upturned eyes of hope. There is the Pool of Healing where the helpless man lay, and looking up, heard the wonderful words falls from the stranger's lips, "Wilt thou be made whole?" And can we forget the place where that peerless spirit faced the weak vacillating Roman Judge and witnessed for the Truth, the place of scourging, the walk along the Street Dolorosa, the Cross, and the cry, "Elo, Elo, Lanta Sabacthani?"

Wonderful as are the thoughts and the pictures the mind can form of the past, as a Salvationist, one could not forget the visit paid to this sacred place by our sainted Founder some few years ago. The visit we know was ever held by this great traveller as one of the most wonderful experiences of his wonderful life.

On the occasion of my recent visit I found many who were present at the meetings which were conducted by the General on the occasion of the visit and we heard such a sweet story showing that here God set His great seal on the effort made. There

is a saintly man living near the city who will ever remember the visit of our Founder, for it was at the Meeting held in the Mission Church that he found the Saviour. He formerly held the position of butler to a wealthy man. Alas! under the stress of temptation he robbed his employer and was carrying on a daily system of quiet fraud unsuspected by his employer. He entered the Meeting and listened to the General. Conviction took hold of his soul, and he was found among the seekers that night. After the Meeting he went straight to his employer, confessed his crime, and professed himself willing to make any restitution his master might demand. As he declared his conversion his employer wept and assured him that he was forgiven.

He faithfully served his master until death separated them. He has still kept green his experience and testimony and lives in the respect of his fellow men, who look upon him as a miracle.

Whilst all we say is true concerning the Holy City, we will not forget the sacredness and charm of those dear spots around which also bring up tender memories as we blend them on our earliest days at mother's knee or Sunday School.

Leaving the city by St. Stephen's Gate, one descends towards the Valley of Jehoshaphat. On the way we pass the wonderful Pool of Siloam, and a little farther on there is a group of old olive trees and a garden where sweet-faced women are tending flowers and shrubs. The sweetest, saddest spot surely in the world. Here it was He prayed in that poignant agony until He sweat great drops of blood. Surely even Calvary itself was no more painful than this. Yes it was in Gethsemane that the grass was beweeded with the blood of His terrible travail.

We cross the place where Kedron

once flowed, and wend our way up the slopes of Olivet towards the Mount. A Greek nunnery is on the summit and the Sisters point us to the Tomb of Martha, the sister of Lazarus. Away along the road on the other side of the Mount we soon come in sight of that place so dear to us because it is so linked up with the most tender episodes of that wonderful Life. Nestling close by the side of a small hill is Bethany, and here there is pointed out to us the house which was formerly the home of Martha and Mary and their brother Lazarus. The Arabs have named it El Ariaro, the Home of Lazarus.

Here, again and again, the Master rested after His long journeys, and received the hospitality of those dear friends who loved him so well. There is the house of Simon the Leper, where Mary broke the box of ointment and poured it out, the fragrance of which outlasts time.

As one comes away and walked back along the road towards evening, there was a sight which in its simple picturesque simplicity seemed to obliterate time and the long centuries. It was the peasants returning from the great city to their homes in Bethany. There sat the swarthy Syrian on his ass, dressed in his robes, with his turban on his head. Walking with tired feet behind was the patient wife, with veil covering her face and in dress unchanged since when the sisters above mentioned walked along the same road. Further along were other women making preparations for the evening meal; some with water bottles on their shoulders; others making up the fire outside and busying themselves in other ways. What moved us most, however, was when we reached the summit and by a sudden turn found ourselves looking upon the great city as the evening sun was casting its golden sheen over its domes and towers.

It must have been very near to this spot where the Master saw that same sight of the old city and wept over it, as He predicted its coming doom.

Yes, it was most impressive to think

Continued on Page 4.)

## Christmas in the Holy Land

By Colonel Isaac Unsworth, International Headquarters

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3.)

that these very stones we might be walking on, as with solemn thought we made our way towards the city on this eventful eve, were trodden by the feet of Jesus so many years ago. Truly these stones of the road in their inarticulate way were speaking to us that evening.

But the time almost of all times for the Christian to visit the Holy Land is at Christmas. This was my great privilege and joy. I was scarcely inside the city before I was hailed by some dear friends belonging to various churches and asked if I would join a party that was going on to Bethlehem that evening.

To think of such a journey stirred up every emotion of my soul. Leaving Jerusalem by the Jaffa Gate, we were soon on the old road. On passing some mounds we were informed they were the tombs of some of the ancients. After going seven long miles we caught our first sight of Bethlehem. Like Jerusalem, it is a city set on a hill. The streets are narrow, and the people are industrious and devout. The whole city almost is Christian, and as we pushed along we were made aware of the great festival approaching by the crowds of men and women who, in suitable attire, were making their way in the direction of the Church of the Nativity.

There are really two Churches of the Nativity. One quite new, a large gorgeous structure built on modern lines and close by the older place, showing signs of the wear and tear of the centuries. Going down many steps one is shown the spot which tradition declares was once the common inn where the poor Mother and Joseph repaired that fateful night, and were compelled to make their resting place in the still more common stable. Here among the kindly cattle the sweet Babe was born, the world's wonder Child.

"Brightest and best of the Sons of thy Morning,

Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid:

Star of the East, the horizon adorning, Guide where our Infant Redeemer is laid."

One little party filed through the narrow tortuous streets from one side of the city to the other, and found ourselves at last in a small church. We were soon singing out the glad song which on that night is sung in almost all Churches in Christendom: "Oh, come all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,

Come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem, There to behold Him, born the King of Heaven,

Oh come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord."

A grand hymn, always fresh, always new, but under such conditions as we sang it on this Christmas eve grander and more inspiring than ever.

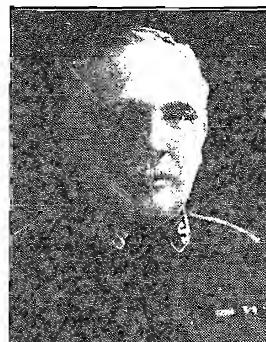
The simple narrative of the birth was read from the Gospels and then prayer. Surely Christmas with its wonders was fast breaking upon us with strange new vision, and in a strangely real and hallowed way.

After this service there was a call for volunteers to go down to the shepherds' plains, some distance away. Making our way out into the open what was our joy at beholding almost a full moon well up in the heavens, casting its sheen like shimmering silver over the city. Outside the city we proceeded down a steep hill by a narrow road paved with

stones until we reached the plain below. Making a turn we discovered an old Roman road going in the direction for which we were making. The stones were worn like the roads one sees in the excavated city of Pompeii, but otherwise the road was in a good state of preservation. The fact that this road still remains as it is, helps us to feel that the fields on either side of it have continued almost in their present state also.

These wonderful fields remind us of David who, as a boy, must have roamed about them. They are still under cultivation during the season. Are they not the fields of Boaz? And was it not in these fields that Ruth gleaned? And was it not probably coming through these fields the Disciples plucked the ears of corn on the Sabbath Day to the disgust of the Pharisees?

We can also picture the poor desolate widow and her daughter trudging along from far distant Moab, the grim outline of whose hills we can discern in the far distance. The happy ending of the story links us historically to the Royal Birth.



Colonel Unsworth

Finding a great square of trees and a wall about them we discover that our journey is at last at an end. These are the Shepherds' Plains. Soon our feet touch the ground where it is said the shepherds tending their flocks on that first Christmas Eve had the most wonderful revelation made to them that has ever come to man.

Suddenly the heavens opened before their wondering gaze and the heavenly host appeared, calming their fears by the astonishing declaration of the birth of Him who had come from their far-off land.

Music filled the air and singing such as earth had never listened to rang out—

"Glory to God in the highest; On earth peace, good will among men."

Here was the announcement which came from Heaven, alas we wait yet in hope and patience for its complete fulfilment.

\* \* \* \*

We hurried back to Jerusalem treasuring in our hearts the new blessing which had come to us, and before our Master in that simple lodging we renewed afresh our consecration to Him for time, and laid our lives down before Him until His Call summons us into His presence.

"Lord He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die;  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth."

## The Boy who Preached with a Shovel

A Christmas Story for the Young People

**I**t was Christmas evening, and Florrie was snuggled up in a corner of the lounge with a book in her lap, just in the middle of a most delightful story. The boys were playing in the corner with the toys that Santa Claus had left in their stockings the night before. Tom was putting his locomotive together, and Jack was arranging a Children's Home with his alphabet blocks. Twenty-six children were ranged about the carpet; some of them in bed, some eating soup out of Florrie's china dishes, one desperate fellow in solitary confinement behind the door, and a long row learning to read from bits of newspaper.

Presently the Children's Home was turned into a gymnasium, where twenty-six little aerobists stood on their heads, walked on their hands, turned somersaults, and performed all manner of wonderful feats. Then they were all prisoners in the Penitentiary and Tom was invited to preach to them. This was his sermon: "Dear friends, folks ought to be good and not steal things and quarrel and get angry. When you begin to be bad you can't tell how bad you may get to be. Our Young People's Sergeant-Major told us last Sunday of a boy who began to be bad by not letting his brother have his skates when he didn't need them at all himself, and when he grew up he set a house afire."

"Is that true Tom?" asked Jack with very big eyes.

"Course not, that's a fable. Sermons are true and fables are just to make you understand 'em. Now my friends, you mustn't steal, or do any more bad things, 'cause you can't do them anyway, and if you try to get out they'll shut you."

The prisoners were now marched back to their cells under the lounge. Tom lay on the carpet with his arms under his head and said very slowly: "When I'm a man I shall be an Army Officer and preach to real prisoners."

"But you said a little while ago that you were going to be an engineer," said Florrie, looking up from her book.

"Well, p'raps I shall," said Tom. "I could think up my sermons all the week and then go and preach 'em on Sundays."

"Oh, you can't do that," said Florrie.

"I could," persisted Tom.

Florrie looked at papa, who was smiling at them over the top of his Christmas "War Cry," and asked doubtfully, "Could he papa?"

"I suppose he could," said papa.

"But I thought Officers had to be just Officers and not part something else."

"Quite true," said papa, "but you don't need to be an Officer in order to preach sermons. I know of a boy who preaches first rate sermons and does a great many other things—goes to school, brings in wood and takes care of a horse."

"Me papa?" asked Tom.

Papa laughed and shook his head. "He preaches them to people on the street; he preached one to me to-night."

"Oh," said Florrie, and Tom sat straight up and looked at papa.

"He preaches them with a shovel."

Tom laughed heartily at this and Florrie looked more puzzled than ever. Jack came and leaned his arms on papa's knee.

"Now, papa," he asked, "how could anyone preach with a shovel?"

"I'll tell you," said papa. "All

through this month of December there has been one hundred and fifteen Street of dear, walk, in matter how downtown, it is always clean to the very edge of people, walk their way in slush, or follow the rest of the way; but come to his place, they stand up straight as a long stick. It makes a long rest to look at him who keeps a sidewalk clean with his shirt-sleeves on doing your work and not thinking; a certain things simply without his sermon—sticking to the day without wearing a coat, doing your own part without other people to do them. "May be a man does it."

"No, it's a boy; I have seen it at it. I saw him out this morning was snowing very fast, and

"Why do you clean your yard? It will soon be as bad as ours," said he, "but this snow out of the way. I can lay now easily, but when it is down it makes hard work; that a first rate sermon an one who does his work a best way preaches a sermon around him."

The door bell rang and called papa away, but Tom, laughing of the little crooked way he had made to the basement back yard, and what a pile of kindlings he had split kitchen range, and he made mind he would try and proclaim with the shovel and the next day.

Florrie saw that her mother laid aside her own book to draw pictures to little Nell.

"That's what mamma is doing," she thought, "preaching about loving other people than yourself; I guess it's one about 'Do unto others' as she left her story and took little sister until her blue eyes were too sleepy even for smile."

The next day Tom waked and shovelled in clear dry firm ground, and then he began to admire it.

"It's nice," said Jack. "It's as nice as that sermon he make. Suppose we go and path for poor old Mrs. Brown."

"Come on," said Tom. "It's a sermon about—about—about what?"

"Being kind," said Jack. "I don't know what the text is unless it's the Golden Text of Company Meeting last Sunday—one another."

"That's a pretty good sermon, Tom. It's to most anything. Say, we've learned something Christmas haven't we?"

### WORK IN FAIR

Sow with generous hand,  
Praise not the toil or pain;  
Tire not the heart, though the heat  
Through the cold spring.  
Tire not the body, though the autumn comes  
For the sowing of golden grain;  
Sow, and look onward, upward,  
Where the sun is bright,  
Where the light appears,  
Spite of the rain.

On your o'er heart's trouble,  
You shall find joy in the fair  
On to-day in the sun;

Thousands of Boys

## Preached with a Shovel

### Story for the Young People

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Say, we  
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### WORK IN FAITH

Sow with generous hands;  
Pause not in toil or pain;  
Tire not through the heat or through the cold, dry  
But wait the Autumn come  
For the seeds of golden grain  
Sow, and onward spread  
Where the berry light appears  
Whence a quite a drift of  
doubt  
On your heart's breaking  
You shall sp in joy the harvest  
You have won to-day in heat



Typical Country Life Enjoyments of Canadian Juniors

Thousands of Boys and Girls like these are being taught to love and serve God under the Flag of the Salvation Army

# Christmas Experience and Practice

by The General

THE coming of Jesus Christ, and His taking to Himself of our flesh and blood, began a new, a most remarkable experience for the world.

It was, in a certain way, a new experience for the Divine Son Himself. This is indeed what we celebrate at Christmas. It is this which fills us with joy. Inasmuch as the children are partakers of flesh and blood. He also Himself likewise partook of the same. He was born into our conditions. He was a helpless babe; clothed and nursed and brought up as a babe; and then as a child, and then He became a working man. All this is very wonderful, and it never loses its wonder and its charm—God made to be Man!

He held the highest place above,  
Adored by Sons of flame,  
And such His self-denying love.  
He laid aside His crown  
To seek the lost at any cost  
Of Heavenly rank and earthly fame,  
He sought us, Blessed be His Name!

But His coming was something more than this. It was, as I have said, a new experience for the world. It opened the way for the realization of that new experience in human life as a whole—but it likewise brought near to every individual soul the promise of a share for itself in that experience. Our religion is, in its promise, universal; but our experience of it is personal. It is for all, but it is for each.

And these two facts strengthen one another. The promise to all supports the experience in the individual, and the experience of the individual supports the promise to all. The wide and glorious promise of Salvation by the life and death of the Babe of Bethlehem reaches out to the utmost limits of human sin and sorrow; but the proof of that promise is seen in its glad and conquering fulfilment in the experience of each believing soul. We know by an inward assurance that it must be possible for all, because we know by an inward assurance that it is possible for us—that it is in very truth ours, yes—we have heard Him ourselves, and know . . .

The knowledge that this experience is ours gains force and joy because we see how the same grand deliverance is promised to all, and because we perceive that what we now realize and feel multitudes of others who have believed have also realized and felt. Salvation for us is made more real, more splendid, more triumphant because we see that the door by which we entered into Life is in actual fact wide open to all who will obey the call. Hallelujah! ‘We believe, not because of thy saying’—or of any

saying of another—for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ.’

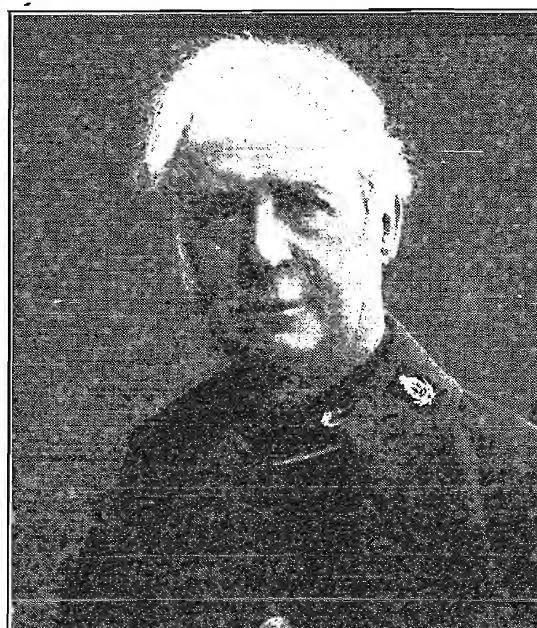
Oh, my dear reader, has He spoken to you?—have you heard Him?—have you stopped amid the turmoil of this passing time to hearken to His voice?—have you waited to hear His word of life for your soul? If not, will you do it now, this very Christmas, in this happy season? If you will you shall surely have this same personal, inviolate experience of His power for yourself. And then, knowing it, by the Blood of the Lamb and the power of the Holy Ghost,

as for the temple and the great assyrian, it is for the factory and the pit, just as it is for the Church or the Citadel. We see it in Jesus Christ’s own teaching. We see it in the effect of the teaching of His disciples. We see it also in the teaching of Paul, who perhaps had clearer and more vivid ideas of what Jesus was and what He would do for us than had any of the Apostles.

Paul realized, too, the great importance of the promise that Jesus will come again, continually lifted his own thoughts and thoughts of his converts to that grand and glorious day when the Crucified shall Himself come back in outward Form, but in majesty and power, to bless, help and cheer those in need and temporal need, and also full of peace which loving service brings.

But naturally among these missions there are some that stand out than others. My first Christmas in a foreign land was one of them. Only about a month before I had suddenly been farewelled from a Lancashire Division in England and appointed to the charge of the newly commenced Salvation Army work in Norway. And on Christmas Eve our dear old Founder and General, William Booth, was to dedicate our newly erected Army Temple in Christiania. The train was late, and the long wait in the biting cold a trying ordeal for the hundreds of Salvationists and friends who were lined up outside the station anxious to get the first glimpse of our veteran Leader, and to shout their welcome as he passed along the railway platform.

How strange it all seemed on Christmas Day with those crowded meetings right from six in the morning, and not only seats but aisle space packed all the way up to the front. Then the many candles and lights burning in every window was a reminder that Christ the Light of the World had come; the sheaves of corn stuck up outside practically every house to provide Christmas cheer for the birds, and many other customs seemed so strange when seen for the first time. And the Army spirit in those Norwegian comrades was just as much in evidence as the land of its birth from which I had come. The hallelujahs as the weeping ones surrounded the altar, the earnest with the halting ones, the outpouring of prayer in what then to me was a strange tongue, and above it all the short sentences of the General, so constantly translated by Commissioner Hellberg; and as the temperature as well as otherwise rose in the building and the holy enthusiasm with our Leader’s voice (although with so much speaking) still un-



General Bramwell Booth

you will say with us, and with those people of old, that you also ‘know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.’

But this holy experience was not intended to stop with those who enjoy it. Its mighty fruits were to be seen in its influence on others—in the most practical things of everyday life. Jesus Christ came into everyday life in everyday fashion—a Babe—a Child—a Workman—a Servant—a Friend of sinners—a Lover of little children—a Man of troubles and sorrows—a Man of prayer and faith—One who learned obedience by the very things He suffered.

So the wonderful personal experience of holy things and of Divine power over sin which He came to bring—which He was born to bring—enters into everyday affairs. It is for the kitchen and the nursery, as well

as for the humbler and simpler purpose to the greater things—bringing a new power for duty, a new force to win battle against the world, the flesh, and the Devil. Never forget that the tender Babe, the sympathy of the Divine, leads always to the law of Holiness and to sacrifice of self for the Salvation of others.

Then we shall show to all that we believe not because of this saying and that, because we have heard Him ourselves. We know that He is the Saviour of the world. If we believe that He is relying upon us to show ourselves bold on His side and to battle for Him, we shall turn away from the vain controversies that are found in the religious world just as certainly as we turn away from the shop windows of the world in fashion.

## 2d Practice

as for the temple and the great assembly for the factory and the pit, just as for the Church or the Citadel. We are in Jesus Christ's own teaching. We are in the effect of the teaching of His Disciples. We see it also in the teaching of Paul, who perhaps had clearer and more vivid ideas of what Jesus was and what He would do for us than had any of the other Apostles.

Paul realized, too, the great importance of the promise that Jesus will come again, and continually lifted his own thoughts and the thoughts of his converts to that grand and glorious day when the Crucified shall Himself come back in our Form, but in majesty and power and gather His own to Himself.

But both as to the first coming and the future coming of His Glory, Paul wanted nothing which takes away our attention from everyday religion, from obedient faith and service, from hundred duty done, from daily love and forth. And so he says:-

"Now we beseech you, brethren, the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and by our gathering together in His Glory. Paul wanted nothing which takes away our attention from everyday religion, from obedient faith and service, from hundred duty done, from daily love and forth. And so he says:-

"Now we beseech you, brethren, the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and by our gathering together in His Glory. That ye be not soon snatched away, nor by word, nor by letter as if now as that the day of Christ is at hand . . . but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more; that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you: that ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have nothing . . ."

So that Jesus Christ's coming is for not only a new inward experience of the Divine—of the supremacy of the conquering—the Heavenly; it is also a new order of life, giving a purpose to the humblest and simplest as well as the greater things—bringing a power for duty, a new force to win the battle against the world, the flesh, and the Devil. Never forget that the tenderness of the Babe, the sympathy of the Divine Head always to the law of Holiness and to the sacrifice of self for the Salvation of others.

Then we shall show to all that we believe not because of this saying and that, because we have heard Him ourselves know that He is the Saviour of the world; if we believe that He is relying upon us to show ourselves boldly on His side and to battle for Him, we shall turn away from the vain controversies that are found in the religious world just as certainly as we turn away from the shop windows of the world fashion.



## Christmas on Three Continents

BY COMMISSIONER SOWTON

**H**OW the approach of Christmas brings back many memories to one who like myself has spent nearly 40 years in the Lord's Harvest Field in many parts of the world. Christmases amid the cold and snow of north European countries, Christmases again in tropical lands, or on Canada's western prairies, or among the slum population of the big cities to the south of us, and all of those Christmases full of earnest effort to bless, help and cheer those in spiritual and temporal need, and also full of that joy and peace which loving service for Christ brings.

But naturally among these many occasions there are some that stand out more than others. My first Christmas in foreign land was one of them. Only about a month before I had suddenly been farewelled from a Lancashire Division in England and appointed to the charge of the newly commenced Salvation Army work in Norway, and on Christmas Eve our dear old Founder and General, William Booth, was to dedicate our newly erected Army Temple in Christiania. The train was late, and the long wait in the biting cold a trying ordeal for the hundreds of Salvationists and friends who were lined up outside the station anxious to get the first glimpse of our veteran Leader, and to shout their welcomes as he passed along the railway platform.

How strange it all seemed on Christmas Day with those crowded meetings right from six in the morning, and not only seats but aisles packed all the way up to the front. Then the many candles and lights burning in every window was a reminder that Christ the Light of the World had come; the sheaves of corn stuck up outside practically every house to provide Christmas cheer for the birds, and many other customs seemed so strange when seen for the first time. And yet the Army spirit in those Norwegian comrades was just as much in evidence as in the land of its birth from which I had just come.

The hallelujahs as the weeping penitents surrounded the altar, the earnest pleadings with the halting ones, the outpourings of prayer in what then to me was an unknown tongue, and above it all the short effective sentences of the General, so ably and instantly translated by Commissioner Booth-Hellberg; and as the temperature spiritually as well as otherwise rose in that crowded building and the holy enthusiasm increased, with our Leader's voice (although hoarse with so much speaking) still urging the un-

converted to decision and encouraging us to more faith and prayer on their behalf, we felt that surely the angels' message had been fulfilled and that in many hearts peace and goodwill had entered, so that when we, near midnight, finished the last of that memorable day's meetings, we felt it had been a Christmas well spent.

But my mind passes on a few years to a Christmas in New York City. The Salvation Army in the States had been passing through a period of special difficulty, but in spite of this our Leaders there thought some extraordinary effort should be made to bring cheer to the needy in the slums of the great city, and astonished the public by announcing



Commissioner Charles Sowton

ing a Christmas dinner for no less than 25,000 guests. The people gasped, and our own comrades not less so than others. Where were they to be fed, and the army of helpers to come from to provide such a feast, and more important still, where was the money to come from to pay for it? But Commissioner Booth-Tucker and his aides had their plans well laid. The now so well known Christmas kettles appeared on the streets of New York, and were introduced for the first time in our history with the "Keep the pot boiling" sign on them, and the money for the feast was provided, while

this same method for raising funds for our now almost universal Christmas dinners for the poor was soon copied in all parts of the world.

I had at that time the oversight of the Scandinavian work of the Army in the United States, and after the usual early Christmas morning service, so dear to the Swede whether abroad or in his homeland, we wended our way to Madison Square Gardens, where hundreds of willing hands were already hard at work packing Christmas baskets. Chickens by the thousand, mountains of bread, vegetables and provisions of every necessary kind met our gaze, and soon my Scandinavian comrades and I were hard at work with the others, but long before the last basket was packed the great crowd who were to receive them began to gather, to whom tickets had been carefully distributed by our Officers days before in all the poorer districts of the city, and ere the last thinly clad woman in that long procession had been the glad recipient of her full-to-overflowing Christmas basket, the hungry crowd of men from the Bowery began to line up. Some 20,000 had been provided for by basket dinners in their own homes, and still there were 5,000 or more to sit down at tables. What a sight it was to see that great building filled with hungry men and boys, with here and there a woman or child also, all sitting down to a well cooked Christmas dinner.

The tables were filled again and again, and meanwhile band music, singing and pictures reminded our guests of Him in whose honor the Birthday Feast was held; and when, near midnight, after an 18 hour day we reached our homes, although ready to drop with fatigue, we were all agreed that this was the happiest Christmas we had ever spent.

Then my mind goes to Christmases in India, where the heat of a tropical sun makes it difficult to have the real Yuletide feeling; yet the children in our many boarding schools, the patients in our Hospitals, the settlers in our Colonies, as well as the comrades in our native village Corps, were all remembered with Christmas cheer. How the little brown faces of the children beamed with happiness, how their big eyes and their pearly white teeth glistened as the story of the child Jesus was told, the song about the shepherds sung, and the sweetmeats and little gifts distributed; and from San Francisco to

(Continued on Page 20)

## SOME ILLUSTRATIONS IN THIS ISSUE

Most of the illustrations which appear in this issue need very little in the way of explanation. They speak for themselves. The scene presented on page one of the cover is one of the best known happenings in ancient history, and is always especially significant in its appropriateness at Christmas time. We trust that it is so on this occasion.

Over leaf on page two of cover is a clever artist's conception of Mother and Child, beautifully suggestive of the Mother and Child associated with Christmas. On page eleven a pathetic scene is portrayed. A widowed mother who has just got saved in a Salvation Army meeting—a meeting by the way, which was led by the General—returns to her home with a new outlook on life and gathering her little ones around her she committeth them to the care of Him whose birth is to be celebrated on the morrow.

On pages twelve and thirteen is represented one of many dying-beds, where a happy Salvationist looks back upon a career of usefulness in the service of others, and praises God for opportunities thus given of glorifying Him in working for the salvation of souls.

The Grace Hospital at Windsor, Ontario, sketch of which is seen at the top of page fourteen is one of the number of similar Institutions which the Army has in operation throughout the Territory.

On the same page will be found a group-photograph of the Territorial Headquarters Sextette. Captain Robertson has been promoted Ensign since that section of this "War Cry" went to press. These Officer-comrades and the excellent work they do will be known to very many, and we doubt not that the reproduction of this photograph will add greatly to the charm of the present issue.

The striking picture which appears on page twenty-three is a reproduction of a sketch made years ago by a former Editor of the "War Cry," Lieut.-Colonel Bond, now in Australia. The picture speaks for itself, and we hope it will not be without its effectiveness as an appeal for the co-operation of our leaders in helping the less fortunate members of the community at this festive season of the year.

The Call for Courage in the right, typified by the Salvationist on page twenty-four will, we hope, be instrumental in arousing Salvationists throughout the Territory to more valiant service than ever during the year now at hand.

## HE SALVATION ARMY WOMAN

The woman who wears the bonnet blue  
as little time and much to do;  
her eye is clear, her heart is true,  
And she's always on the job.  
Her face in every street is seen;  
ventures where few good have  
been,  
job's to make the whole world  
clean  
For Bill and Sall and Bob.  
She faces fate with courage stout;  
her mind is closed to fear and doubt,  
brought a man be down he's never  
out—  
such is her simple creed.  
ministering angel, she,  
every soul in misery,  
the bonnet that we seem to see.  
A halo is, indeed!

Joseph B. Gilder.

## Mrs. Commissioner Sowton

## A TRIBUTE BY A WOMAN OFFICER

**Y**EARS ago I knew an aged Salvationist couple who kept the flag flying in a village Corps. They had great love for the Army and unbound faith in the Salvation Army. The "War Cry" was their only regular periodical and this Darby read to Joan from the first to the last page each week.

Now because I know that there are comrades who seldom or never come to any centre of Salvation Army operations and whose only chance of becoming acquainted with our Leaders is through the pages of the "War Cry," I will try to introduce them to Mrs. Commissioner Sowton.

When at the great welcome meet-

think kindly of you.

Very graphic are her illustrations, spoken with a slight Scotch accent. When speaking on one occasion to a small gathering, composed mostly of women, on the eagle stirring up her nest, Deut. 32, 11 and 12, she said "The little birds had badly been fed by the mother eagle. All they did was to open their mouths and she dropped in the food, but one morning she began pushing them about and pushing, and pushing them until perhaps the little birds thought mother is acting strangely. She has always been so good to us, but now she seems to want to kill us! Finally she gets the little ones to the very edge of the nest and



Mrs. Commissioner Sowton

ing in the Massey Hall last November, Mrs. Sowton stepped to the front of the platform we saw a fair woman, a little past middle age and somewhat taller than the average, with a bearing countenance. When she spoke she smiled as though it was as natural to smile as to speak; she put us at our ease. We almost forgot the speaker by the attention aroused in the message she delivered. Her manner of talking was natural and clear and her tones well modulated and when she ceased to speak one felt one had received a bit of Gospel truth.

"Good night, Mrs. Sowton," replied a woman Soldier in reply to her greeting after an evening meeting. "I enjoyed your address tonight." "Thank you," Mrs. Sowton replied, and her face smiled her appreciation. Mrs. Sowton is naturally friendly and ere you realize it you find yourself talking freely to her. If afterward your sense of the consideration due to her reminds you that reticence would have been more becoming you feel instantly reassured by your confidence in Mrs. Sowton that she does not think of herself but she will

then she pushes them over. The little eagles begin to flutter and use their wings, nevertheless they find themselves falling, but like a flash the mother eagle spreads her wings and glides beneath her young and lifts them up again and into the nest. This she does again and again till at last the little eagles have learned to fly. "So the Lord alone did lead them."

Mrs. Sowton is an active partner with the Commissioner in much of his travelling and many of his meetings, sharing his toils and aiding his efforts to build up God's work in the Territory. There are perhaps few women who have travelled and spoken more than Mrs. Sowton.

While splendidly representing the women of all branches of Salvation Army work, Mrs. Sowton is an enthusiastic supporter of the Home League and no Corps or League is too small for her co-operation and interested sympathy. Its possibilities for linking up the middle aged women who attend Army Meetings and utilizing their experience and talents are not lost upon her. She has vision and sees the

(Continued on next column)

## THE SALVATION BOOKSHELF

The books of the Salvation Army are not too widely read. The reason for this is not far to seek. They are not too widely known. They while covering a wide range of subjects, they are so distinct in character as to lead many to suppose that they possess little or no value.

This is a colossal mistake. Books of the Salvation Army charm entirely wanting in many ways which are considered缺点. It must, of course be admitted that there is no striving after cloven-hoofedness of Salvation Army writers. Their literary style allowed to deviate from the relation of fact and there is certainly no desire to enter the realms of fiction in order to make the printed story interesting; but the less, there can be found upon the Salvation Army bookshelf a host of volumes which in one way or another stand out amongst the most wonderful publications of the day.

In a wide diversity of subjects pretty nearly everything from a Bible to the big Drum has been enlarged upon in one or other of a series of volumes issued from the Army Drums. The writers are as varied as the writings, but however much they differ in many other things they are alike in one particular, they tell what they are writing about, without exception have a deep real experience which gives point to the words they pen and brings home to the heart of the reader the truth which they write.

While many, indeed most of the Salvation Army books have been written by Salvationists, there has arise a growing number of outside writers who, realizing the wealth of material lying at hand, have chosen the side of the Salvation Army and have described it to the astonishment of many in the book-reading world.

It is not possible to point to any one book and say that therein may be found the full story of the Salvation Army work. That work is so vast and so many-sided that no one book, however big, will do much more than touch upon some phases of it. At the same time it can be said with certainty that no one can read and take in the contents of any one volume without realizing a desire to read others from the same source. In not a few instances it is known that the chain-opening of an Army volume has led to its subsequent considered reading, the outcome of it being a life-consecrating to the service about which the book was written.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the books of the Salvation Army possess an interest not only for members of the Organization, but for all who name the name of Christ in matter to what denomination they belong, and we go further and claim that quite apart from the question of religion the great bulk of the books on the Army bookshelf will arouse interest and warm the heart of any one who will be at the trouble to give either one of them a little thoughtful consideration.

power members of the League are capable of bringing to bear upon work which needs doing.

We are very fortunate in Canada East to have Mrs. Sowton here. As a true woman of God she can safely be trusted and relied upon in every situation. Let us women Officers not fail her or disappoint our Master in Heaven, but benefiting by her example, let us faithfully live up to our responsibilities and privileges in the great Salvation War.



EDITORIAL

Captain

Whatever else

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In a wide diversity of subjects pretty nearly everything from the Bible to the big Drum has been enlarged upon in one or other of the volumes issued from the Army Press. The writers are as varied as the writings, but however much they differ in many other things they are alike in one particular, they know what they are writing about, and without exception have a deep personal experience which gives point to their words, they pen and bring home to the heart of the reader the truth which they write.

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Captain Greatheart remembers those whom others forget  
Whatever else demands her attention she finds time to go where the friendless children live

# "THERE'S NOTHING IN RELIGION!"

A Son of Ontario goes far into Sin—And strange adventures befall him in far countries  
But the Salvation Army sends him home Saved in time for Christmas

By Staff-Captain J. A. Hawkins, International Headquarters

**N**ELLY Kelly was a man—every inch of him. True, he was young, though he would grow out of that in time, and his parents in the little town in Ontario gave the above as their verdict concerning their one and only child. Proud indeed were they to see him develop—every inch of him: along many lines.

But the Devil has the map of Ontario off his heart, so to speak, and he knows to an inch the ugly little places into which some foolish young fellows were in the habit of passing, and with them went Nelly.

#### Along the evil way

Of course that was not his baptismal name. No, Lionel was the nice-sounding "handle" that his father gave to the Minister, and the fond little mother's heart beat quickly as she breathed it to herself hundreds of times after that day. But the boys at school "shortened" him, and the young fellows in that secret "snugery" fastened on the abbreviation with glee.

And because they twitted him, saying that he was "a pretty little thing," he took quick strides along the evil way to prove that he was a man all the same.

It was a pitiable declension. He that hath eyes to see and a heart to feel suffers agonies when a young man steps out on the slippery way which leads down to the pit. No, we will not go into details here.

Enough it is to say that, feeling the limitations of his native place, and the irksomeness of the necessity for some degree of circumspection so near to his own home and people, Lionel Kelly disappeared one day. He was gone to the city.

Writing from Toronto he told his father that he would quickly make good there, and, returning, prove that he was every inch a man. Seemingly he was uncertain of his right to that description at the moment.

In a month he was writing from Montreal. Before three months had passed his newspaper bore an address at Quebec. Again, just one month later, and he was in Liverpool. And he was always saying that he was sure to come home eventually to prove his right to be considered a man!

#### A bad practice

Perhaps, despite poets and philosophers, he thought that clothing had something to do with it. Whether that be so or not, he was presently to be seen in King's uniform—Nelly was a soldier. And a smart-looking fellow, too. He took to drill like a babe to milk, and the simile holds good with regard to the hog's-wash absorbed in the canteen.

So Nelly became a worse soldier in direct ratio as he consumed more ooze; and he presented yet another bête-lesson and occupation for the orderly-officer. And it was no better, when he was sent to India, than had been in England, save that now he drank to cool himself, whereas then he was seeking warmth.

Handed over to the chaplain for a purpose of receiving a "wiggling," allowing a disgusting beer-feast, Nelly found himself debating with the worth of religion.

"Really, sir," said he, trying to be sceptical, through his eyes danced with derision; "you don't expect me to believe that there is anything in

this religion business, do you? As man to man, now, sir!"

"Whose type of man?" asked the cleric quietly. But the significance of the query was lost on the befuddled soldier. "We won't mention the word Kelly," the chaplain continued. "Let me but add this: You will be lucky to take a body of any sort away from India if you continue as you are going. There is one certain conclusion to such service as you are rendering His Majesty!"

"Meaning, sir?"

"There seems to be only one way to teach your kind, my lad. Go on your way through the school of experience. I only hope there may be enough of you left to send home to profit by the lessons you will surely receive!"

"There's nothing in it," said Kelly to himself as he went away; but he was more thoughtful than had formerly been common to him, for many days thereafter.

#### An unsatisfied longing

Just about this time he had the good fortune to visit the sacred city of Benares, and in the course of interested wanderings he found himself standing at length on the steps leading down into the River Ganges. Towering above and against the sky were the girders of the railway bridge, and hanging to it the footway along which came the almost ceaseless stream of native pilgrims, seeking to find merit by means of ablutions in the river.

Some strange spirit seemed to take possession of the soldier. Here, standing on the steps where many thousands, yea, millions, had trodden, as they came down to seek the sacrificial washing, he became conscious of a feeling of unrest within himself. Something of the huge burden of unsatisfied longing which characterised the native devotee, as, after hundreds of miles of pilgrimage, and the long-anticipated plunge into the waters of the Ganges, he turned about totally unchanged after all! The very atmosphere felt as if it were charged with cruel disillusionment.

"Oh, there is nothing in religion!" Kelly cried aloud to the swirling waters. And even as he spoke this unanswered query sprang also to his lips: "Yet why—?" The query was not only unanswered, it was not fully framed.

At his side, as he stood there, he noticed a low masonry abutment which, traversing the last three steps, projected a few feet into the river like a pier. A yard above the water, some three yards long, and maybe a couple in width, it had just room enough on its outer end for a small square temple with a spiked spire. Just a plain little shrine, guiltless of any ornament, gazing blankly, out of sightless eyes, over the Ganges. The shrine of Mai Kali.

Kelly seemed to sense some silent reproach here, for he turned away crying again:

"There is nothing in religion, nothing in any of it!"

"Mai Gunga!" quavered a cracked voice close to the soldier's ear; and Kelly's quick glance took in an ancient native whose wrinkled features were composed into an expression of most utter agony of supplication. No sign of joyous expectation was written there; only awful and intense long-

ing, mingled with fearful foreboding.

"Mai Gunga! (Mother Ganges)," he cried, "I grow old! Grant me this last cleansing, Mother! Wash me from my sin ere I go hence!" And straightforward he cast himself from the steps on which he stood alongside the soldier, and, with a splash, was covered by the water.

#### Lifesaving little valued

Staring with curiosity Kelly became aware, on the instant, that the old man was in danger of drowning, for he made no effort to come to the surface. With one quick movement the soldier had seized the native and deposited him in safety on the step again. But he never counted on the scene which followed. The old man recovered in a flash, and equally swiftly turned on the Feringhee—but not to thank him! Others joined in the chorus and a regular din of angry voices assailed the would-be life-saver. It seemed that his well-intended effort had totally failed of its object. So far from doing good he had been guilty of a most hideous blunder!

After some hundreds of miles of painful pilgrimage, suffering untold agonies and self-inflicted torture, meanwhile, the old man had accomplished the elaterior merit, only to lose all, and more than all, because the infidel had touched him, in that same hour!

Nelly Kelly had to run for his life, with the mob howling at his heels, and as he went he kept repeating to himself:

"There is nothing in religion!" Only when he had outdistanced his pursuers and found himself bathed in perspiration, and panting from his exertions, did he discover that he was still mouthing the words of his foolish challenge. Then he paused a moment ere he concluded on that same old aimless query: "Yet why—?"

#### The sniper's bullet

There were those who welcomed the order to the North-West Frontier, welcomed it for Kelly's sake. One of those perennial "affairs" with which the hill-men seek to enliven the monotony of existence had called for stern handling, and there was Nelly Kelly, one day, lying behind a breast-work, looking for trouble amongst the barren heights, and hoping he would not find any. With the drink long worn out of him the soldier was well in evidence, and he was a good soldier, was Nelly Kelly.

"Duke, Nelly me dear," said Joey Baker, who lay near by, as a sniper's bullet whined between them. "That mop of yours will not trouble ye any more if a bit of lead gets mixed up with your tresses." Scarcely had the words been spoken when there came again the sharp crack of the rifle up aloft, and at the same moment Nelly put up a violent hand to his head. Again and again he felt his cranium and looked at his hand for signs of blood, but there was never a token of wound. A confused grin stole across his face.

"Mighty queer," he muttered; "I could have sworn he'd got me!" "Nicked ye safe enough," said Joey; "marked ye for his own, me boy. He will come for ye later. Take a look in this," and the man handed up a steel mirror in which Nelly surveyed as much of the top of his head

as came within the line of vision. Here was something which set him even more than ever, and it other men laughed heartily, in a sort of way; for they never forgot that they were in the presence of a criminal.

"Well, I've got a parting at last," said he. "And there was to be no the rattle of the bullet through his curls, for it had cut a narrow path clear of hair, exposing the skin of scalp which was now crimson tingling from the unaccustomed treatment which it had received.

Who would care to follow him every step of his downward fall? Suffice to take a peep or two, at various points in his career; they tell a familiar story, though the setting is different, perhaps.

The battalion came back from North-West into the comparative civilization of a seething city. And Kelly celebrated his return in characteristic fashion.

See that water carrier crossing a barracks square. Look, he halts with two outhouses meet! He stoops, dragging round the nozzle of his water-skin sets flowing a thin stream which sweeps down on to—? Come closer. There, lying on his back, is the shadow of the cook-house, Nelly. What is the matter? Has a touch of the sun? No, it is a load of drink which has knocked him out! He is drunk! And the man standing over him, keeps the cobra's strike curving, now on to his head, again over his ears.

#### A bad character

It is not an edifying spectacle. To bloated brown water-bag, all glutted with the seeping fluid, lies clasped against the thin brown body of the wallah. And he glistens with perspiration as, his scraggy limbs struck the soldier's unconscious form, he tries to restore him to a sense of his surroundings. Certainly, the black is rendering timely aid, but then it is a suggestion of a great ugly, brown spider operating upon a white victim.

Nelly refused to awaken for the native, and so the military policeman "got" him, with the result that a court-martial dismissed Kelly with ignominy, and when next he walked abroad it was inside that suit which denotes a bad character.

A dusty, evil-smelling, by-alley in the bazaar: a place where only savages come; but here is Kelly, lying in the sun, ragged, drunkenly unconscious. Coolies pick him up and remove him just inside the shadow, and, when the rays of the burning sun find him again, they transport him into the window-less slip of a room occupied by a low caste Indian and there he lies in deepest stupor, upon a string bed. The hooded mass, and everybody in the bazaar, knows that the soldier in the bad-character suit lies as one dead in the room of Gamoo.

But there comes an end, one way or another, to the oblivion of the drunkard, and Kelly started the crowd of natives grouped about the doorway of Gamoo's room by calling for water.

"Pani!" he cried; "pani, and bring a real jin (quickness) with it!" The water-carrier in the crowd came forward post-haste.

(Continued on page 15.)



# RELIGION!"

Tell him in far countries  
for Christmas

as came within the line of vision.  
There was something which made him even more than ever, and the other even laughed heartily, in a sort of way; for they never forgot that they were in the presence of a cunning foe.

"Well, I've got a parting at last," said Kelly. And there was to be seen the track of the bullet through his hair, as it had cut a narrow path right clear of hair, exposing the skin of scalp which was now crimson tingling from the unaccustomed movement which it had received.

Who would care to follow Ed every step of his downward way? Suffice to take a peep or two at various points in his career; they tell familiar story, though the setting is different, perhaps.

The battalion came back from the North-West into the comparative civilization of a seething city. And Ed celebrated his return in characteristic fashion.

See that water carrier crossing the barracks square. Look, he balls up two outhouses meet! He stoops, dragging round the nozzle of his water-skin, sets flowing a tiny stream which sweeps down to —? Come closer. There, lying on his back in the shadow of the cook-house, is Nelly. What is the matter? Has a touch of the sun? No, it is a load of drink which has knocked him out! He is drunk! And the black standing over him, keeps the cold trickle curving, now on to his face, head, again over his ears.

#### A bad character

It is not an edifying spectacle. The bloated brown water-bag, all glistening with the seeping fluid, lies dead against the thin brown body of the wallah. And he glistens with perspiration as his scraggy limbs astir. The soldier's unconscious form, he tries to restore him to a sense of his surroundings. Certainly, the man is rendering timely aid, but there is a suggestion of a great ugly, been spider operating upon a white victim.

Nelly refused to awaken for his native, and so the military policeman "got" him, with the result that a court-martial dismissed Kelly with ignominy, and when next he walked abroad it was inside that suit which denotes a bad character.

A dusty, evil-smelling, by-alley in the bazaar; a place where only natives come; but here is Kelly, lying in the sun, ragged, drunkenly unconscious. Coolies pick him up and remove him just inside the shadow, and, when the rays of the burning sun find him again, they transport him into the windowless slip of a room occupied by a low-caste Indian and there he lies in deepest stupor, upon a string bed. The hours pass, and everybody in the bazaar knows that the soldier in the bad-character suit lies as one dead in the room of Gamoos.

But this comes an end, one way or another, to the oblivion of the drunkard, and Kelly started the crowd of natives grouped about the doorway of Gamoos's room by calling "Pani!" he cried; "pani, and bring me real jii" (quickness) with it!" The water-carrier in the crowd came forward promptly.

(Continued on page 15.)



## Their First Christmas without Father

A widowed Mother, who has just got saved in a Salvation Army Meeting, returns to her home with a new outlook on life, and gathering her little ones around her she commits herself and them to the care of Him whose birth is to be celebrated on the morrow.



Living and Dying under the Army Flag

"Next to praising the Lord for saving my soul, I have nothing given me the joy of working for the Salv-



## Living and Dying for the Army Flag

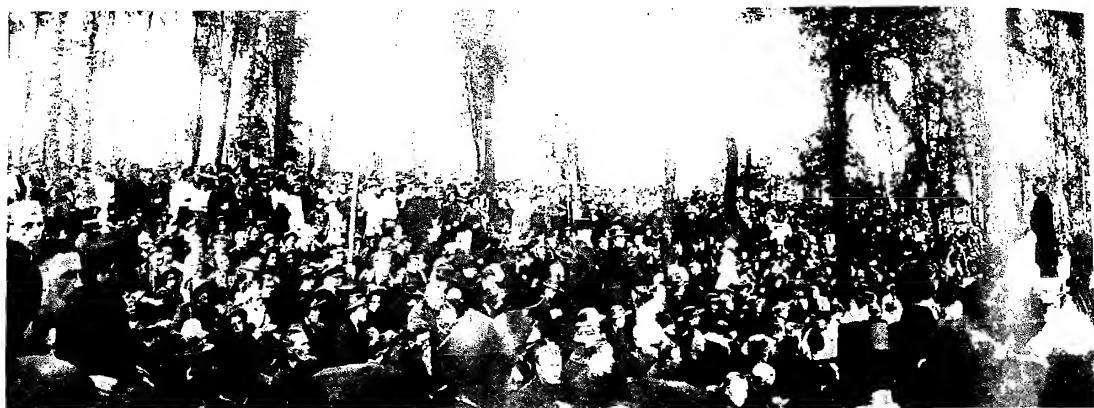
"I praising the Lord for saving my soul, I have been given me the joy of working for the salvation of others."



Grace Hospital, Windsor, Ontario, which has been greatly enlarged during the year.



**"THERE'S  
NOTHING  
ON!"**



A Swedish Camp Meeting: Commissioner Sowton is seen speaking on the right hand.



### **Territorial Headquarters Glass Textile.**

*Standin': Adjutant Bee, Ensign Keith, Captain Robertson Ensign Laurie. Sitting: Major Easton, Staff Captain McElhone.*

# GENERAL WILLIAM BOOTH AS I KNEW HIM

By Major John Smith, International Headquarters

**A**S I pen these words I find it difficult to confine myself to the originator of the Movement, but in obedience to the Editor's behests, I am to give emphasis from my point of view to what has already been written regarding our first General.

From the elevated pedestal of fame as the Founder of the Salvation Army, the late General loomed large in the sight of mankind, but those who only viewed him from that great height, were but witnesses of his nobility of character, and grandeur of achievement. Intimate association enables me to bear witness to his charm of spirit and humility of soul, for in addition to living with him in his house at Hadley Wood, I had the privilege of accompanying him on more than two hundred of his campaigns in the United Kingdom and other lands.

#### False notions

It is unfortunate that our great men are so apart from their fellows in their lives. A closer intimacy, in many cases, would remove many misunderstandings, and give the key, not only to the heart of the man, but to the inner meaning of the work. The ridiculous notions held at one time regarding our revered Founder were still entertained in certain quarters right up to the day of his death, presumably because the lives of many great men of the world are invariably associated with luxurious living and extravagant tastes. But our Founder was the more remarkable because whilst in the truest sense he was great, his greatness stood out in relief because of the extraordinary simplicity of his life.

There were stories of his palaces, which in reality consisted of merely an eight-roomed house; and of his horses and carriages, of which he owned not one. His simplicity was manifested in respect to his diet. It seems to me that he agreed with the Apostle Paul's view, "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth."

#### He denied himself

And this contributed considerably to his power with people. In spite of the fact that the General could command the best in the land, he purposely denied himself in order to keep fit for his work. Many times has he been billeted at a well-to-do person's mansion, where in spite of the intimation that had been given concerning the General's simple requirements, we found they had provided several luxuriant courses. Sitting down with the company, the General, as the guest of honor, would be first asked what he could have, and frequently he would baffle the company by refusing to take of the spread before him, and filling for a basin of bread and milk, two or three pieces of fried bread toast and butter.

On occasions when he has been a guest of a physician, I have known the General whilst sitting at the table turn round and say: "Doctor, why didn't you die your patients?" The doctor, nonplussed, would not know what reply, when the General would say, "Shall I tell you why? You'd be your practice!"

I suppose there was nowhere to be found such an indomitable worker as our beloved Founder. He could not sit idle, nor could he tolerate seeing anyone else idle—as those who

composed his Staff well knew.

He would work morning, noon and night, and when on tour would speak from railway trains, motor cars, on ocean steamers, from verandahs, and door-steps. Whilst travelling the time would be occupied in reading dispatches from and dictating correspondence to all parts of the world. He was very considerate of his Secretaries and his Staff, but he worked them hard. He had no place for slackers. He would make others work because he worked himself. It was a common thing for him to dictate shorthand notes to me in the train, and for me afterwards to type them out whilst he sat in the corner of the compartment, so that it may truly be said that at times the great Organization to which we belong was directed from the compartments of a railway train! In passing, I may say I have since gone a stage further, in that it is a common thing for the present General to dictate articles and letters to me in an oscillating automobile.

A lady who was intensely interested in the Founder, once said: "General, if you will take a holiday, I will give you the use of my house, my servants, my horses and carriages, and give you £5,000 for that pet scheme of yours!" Although the General asserted that he had not had a holiday for twenty years, he said when telling me of this, "I'm not going for any holiday, but I'm after that £5,000 all the same."

#### His sense of humor

The General's keen sense of humor relieved the weight of many a burden. Wit was one of his most sparkling characteristics.

I shall never forget my first experience at Hadley Wood. I entered the General's study—a young Lieutenant quivering with nervousness—with my shorthand book to receive certain notes. The General humorously remarked, "Well, if you can teach me to dictate, I'll promote you on the spot." The General, quite in error as I think, had the opinion that he was not good at dictating. A few weeks later he said, "Well, you have not yet taught me how to dictate—you won't get your promotion you know." Very timidly I replied, "I wish I could." Whereupon with a flash and a smile the General said, "What, get your promotion?" "Well, both, sir," I blurted out.

On another occasion we were billeted at a very fine house, and looking round the room the General turned to me and said, "I suppose this place and £5,000 a year would just suit you. If you came in for a house like this I expect you would want to put up the bands!" I ventured to reply that it was not unlikely.

In the midst of all his toils the General was always anxious to meet the members of his household for family prayers. The main features of this assembly were the reading of the appointed passages in "The Soldier's Guide," and the offering of prayer by one of the little company, usually followed by a prayer by the General himself.

During my stay at "Rookstone" the former duty always fell to my lot, and the lessons I received in expression and articulation will ever stand me in good stead.

The moments, however, that were most precious to me were, when alone with the General in a billet, during a campaign, and before finally settling to rest for the night, the General

would say, "Smith, get down and pray." Whilst the General lay in bed weary and worn after a day's campaign I would kneel by the side of his bed and offer humble petitions to the Lord. Then the General himself would pray, and oh, how he prayed. My poorly formed phrases fell into insignificance beside his, those quiet moments alone with the General and God were times of great blessing and inspiration to my soul, the benefit of which I shall experience throughout my whole career.

#### Early experiences

During the General's last tour in Denmark he spent two or three days with his daughter, Commissioner Lucy, at her home, which was then in Copenhagen. Seated round the dining-table one day were the General, Commissioner Lucy, with her two daughters, and myself. The General chatted to the little company, telling us some of his early experiences. Speaking of recitations and ability to remember them, he looked across the table at the children and commenced reciting that interesting ballad "The Grog-Seller's Dream," which the readers of "The Life of Mrs. Booth" may recollect. His reciting of this and the inimitable style in which it was rendered will, I am sure, never be forgotten by the little company.

Then the General was very companionable with his personal Staff, and whilst attending to his needs he would frequently relate for my edification things connected with his early days and the beginnings of the Army. One pretty story illustrating the human side of the General he told me in this way. It was a season when there was in England an exceptional number of wasps, and the General noticed them. He told me that when he was courting the Army Mother he one day visited her home, and whilst he was engaged in a confidential chat with her mother, he heard a scream, "William, William," from his "darling" who was in the garden. He rushed out and found that she had been stung by a wasp! The General went on to say how delighted he felt to hear her call him "William" for the first time, and to think that she in her pain, had called for him and not for her mother.

#### The "good grey head"

When travelling out only had to listen to the comments of the crowd as they sought with eagerness to get a sight of the "good grey head that all men loved," to be impressed by the fact that he did not belong to any particular class or race, but to humanity. I could give many illustrations of this, but one or two must suffice.

It was on a Motor Campaign that I observed a tottering old lady pressing her way through the crowd—reminding me reverently of the woman trying to touch the hem of Christ's garment—and having reached her objective she fell back gasping "Thank God, I've touched him."

"Isn't he like Father Christmas," a little girl was heard to whisper. One poor old lady, who had lost the use of both limbs, was carried to her door and placed in a bath chair, remaining there until the General passed. As the car approached, the light on her face was noticed and it was seen how vehemently she waved her handkerchief. To an Army Officer, with whom she chatted before we left the town in the evening,

she said, "I can now die happy, I have seen the General, and when the call comes I know that God will send down the hallelujah motor for me, and the loss of my poor old limbs won't matter in the least."

I must refer to our Founder's passion for souls. What an example he was to all Salvationists in this respect. There has been no one to equal him. Souls—souls—souls—was his theme night and day, sick or well.

One incident connected with his closing days gives some estimate of the depth of his love for fallen humanity, and has special significance at this time, because of the death of that devoted warrior and world-wide soul-winner, Commissioner Lawley.

#### A privilege to serve him

On one occasion whilst the Founder was lying on his bed in a semi-conscious condition, the oft repeated question was put whether there was anything we could do for him, he made a faltering reply which I shall never forget. "Yes," he said, "take me—to—a meeting—and—let me hear dear old Lawley say—General—here comes—the forth!"

Even in the midst of his own sufferings he was thinking of those who, spiritually, were "sick unto death."

Whatever circumstances life may have in store for me they will never be able to rob me of the joy occasioned by the knowledge that in the closing years of the Founder's life, I was privileged to render what he, with his own pen, graciously recorded as "devoted, self-denying and effective secretarial service," and never will fade from my mind the memories of the consideration and loveliness that this great man manifested to one of the least of his Officers.

## CHRISTMAS SONGS

### WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he—for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind—  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
To you and all mankind."

"To you, in David's town, this day,  
Is born of David's line,  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly Babe you there shall  
To human view display.  
[Find  
All meanly wrapped in swathing  
And in a manger laid."

### HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS

Hark, the herald angels sing  
"Glory to the new-born King!  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild;  
God and sinners reconciled."

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of  
Peace!

Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Life and light to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die;  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

Come, Desire of nations, come,  
Fix in us Thy humble home;  
Rise, the woman's conquering Seed,  
Brute in us the serpent's head.

DEEP in the myrtle shade of the forest, the Muskoka River is rushing, cleaving the solemn gloom and breaking the awful silence, as it dashes down in thundering music headlong upon the mighty rocks, until the rich brown water, shot with amber light, is churned and frothed into creamy foam or shattered into myriad glittering drops.

There on its banks sat Bob McCracken, easing his blistered feet, as he whistled softly and whittled away at a chunk of tobacco.

Many a restless journey he had roved across the Continent, since he left the old home in Connecticut. Restless his spirit within him still, he had "footed it" now through over a hundred miles of bush; he had forded rivers; he had floundered and wrestled through dismal swamps and dense underbrush, battling with sandflies and black-flies, and horse-flies, and privations.

With critical but admiring eye he scanned the landscape, as he thought within himself, here he would "settle." He would build himself a hut; he would chop the trees and make a clearing; he would hollow a log canoe and fish—for the waters were stocked with trout and pickerel; he would lie in wait, with loaded gun, for the tread of the shy deer—for the woods were full of game; he would bathe in the lake, where the beautiful margin of white sand shelved gently down under the hanging lilies and beneath the many flowering water-weeds. There on the one side was the tiny "erick" of clear spring water, ever-singing beneath the loaded branches of the choke-cherry underwood; and there on the other side was the deep gulf where the raspberries grew. The land was rich in fruit—strawberries, cranberries, mulberries. Surely, it was a pleasant place.

At last, shutting his jack-knife with a decisive snap, and stowing with the tobacco in the pocket, he raised his weather-worn coat, he raised himself to his feet and strode away. So Bob "located" in Muskoka. Years passed on. The surrounding country "opened up" and a lumber camp was pitched. Saw-mills clattered,斧头声充满了 the sound of the chopping.

IT was my first appointment to command of a Corps, and I with some measure of fear trembled. The Officers who was succeeding, who were both entered and good, had won great victories for God. I found a band of good Soldiers, who would dare anything for God and the first Meeting with the Divine presence with

After a few weeks I noticed the congregation a man who in the same seat each night listened attentively, but was troubled and unhappy look his face. I asked the Sergeant who he was and he replied that is Mack. He is only of the summer months. He is of a big lumber camp up the stock. He has been continuing for some time, but he is a sinner, a hard man with his past, and a notorious blasphemer.

In the Soldiers' Meeting we made Mack a subject of prayer, and one night shortly afterwards his hand was raised, indicating that he desired our prayer. He did right after night all our pleading and praye ed powerless to bring him



# KNEW HIM

she said, "I can now die happy, I have seen the General, and when the call comes I know that God will send down the little-known motor, for me and the loss of my poor old life won't matter in the least."

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Even in the midst of his own sufferings he was thinking of those who, spiritually, were "sick unto death." Whatever circumstances life may have in store for me they will never be able to rob me of the joy occasioned by the knowledge that in the closing years of the Founder's life, I was privileged to render what he, with his own pen, graciously recorded as "devoted, self-denying and effective secretarial service," and never will fade from my mind the memories of this great man manifested to one of the least of his Officers.

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To you and all mankind.  
To you in David's town, this day,  
Born of David's line,  
Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:  
The heavenly Babe you there shall  
Behold, wrapped in swathing bands  
In a manger laid."

#### RK. THE HERALD ANGELS

He, the herald angels sing  
Joy to the new-born King!  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild;  
And sinners reconciled.

The heaven-born Prince of Peace!

The Sun of Righteousness

and light to all He brings,

With healing in His wings.

He lays his glory by,  
That man no more may die;

To raise the sons of earth,

To give them second birth.

Desire of nations, come,  
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The woman's conquering Seed,

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## A Muskoka Miracle AND CHRISTMAS DAY FOUR YEARS LATER

axe and falling timber dispelled for ever the solitude of the forest; and merry human voices rang out, where but recently the wolf and the bear and the beaver or the wandering Indian, had roamed beneath the birch and maple.

But wild indeed was the record of those years for Bob McCracken! Surely, his nature should have expanded and refined beneath the influence of the glorious beauty of nature! But it was not so; rather, removed from the restraints of society, he yielded himself up to some innate principle of savagery within him, haunting the woods, half-clad, with kindred spirits as lawless as himself, shooting and fishing, or loafing and boozing on his own neglected land; sometimes river-driving or gambling and card-playing, in bar-room rows, where revolvers were drawn and blood spilt; orwhelmed in drunken snares in the forest that suggest the Bacchanalian orgies of mythology; lost repeatedly in the trackless wilds, in danger of freezing or starving in the winter; living on any spoil of the woods cooked by gipsy-fires, or feasting perhaps on lumps of fat pork dipped in molasses and washed down with draughts of brandy; many times in danger of drowning in the dark waters, when leaping, drunken and unsteady, upon the rolling logs, floating in the lakes.

A veritable "wild man of the woods" was he, clothed in a sheepskin, and to all appearance inanimate. Still onward flowed the broad river, and still stood the log cabin, lantern-lighted, with the dusky moths fluttering softly against the square windows and the blue night.

And there, too, stood an oddly-shaped box, small enough for the treasure it held. Very strange it seemed that the one humanizing element in Bob's life should be taken away! It was his little daughter—his tiny pet.

Still, in fancy, he could feel the thin arms and the warm pressure

of her soft little form, as, but yesterday, he used to hold her, unfolded against his heart; and now there before him she was lying, with sweet shut eyes and cold waxen palms folded "like kissing shells"—dead—and there stood he with painfully-throbbing heart, and a choke in his swollen throat. Still, he could see the wistful look in her dear eyes, as with her weak voice she told him faintly she was going "to be with Jesus."

It was too much for poor drunken, lawless Bob. He must see his own again! He was broken down! He knew he was vile and worthless, and utterly unfit to meet his God.

From that day he set himself with wet eyes and newly-awakened desires heavenward, to grope his way towards the light. To this end he read his Bible, and any other literature of a religious character. But no relief could he find in books from the burden of past sin, nor power to deliver himself from the chain of evil habit that bound him fast. Then for three long years he struggled, burdened beneath the deep conviction of sin.

At length, one day, through the forest from Toronto, down the now large-grown village street, came a novel and a welcome sight—a sight that caused every head to turn with interested curiosity. It was only two pale bonnets, with two girlish faces beneath them, but the faces were bright with the love of Jesus, and ready with the message of salvation.

There is a large rough wooden building that had been intended to stable horses, there, near the river, they sang, sweet-voiced, their songs of Calvary, while the winds and the echoes of rustling woods tuned in with the merry tamborines.

Of course, Bob went to the meetings with everyone else, and felt, like many another, that the Army was the very place for him; and there the story of the Cross shone in upon his hungering soul, piercing the darkness, and he arose from that

penitent-form, beneath the lanterns slung up upon the raftered roof, with a heart heaving with thankful praise and love to God and man—arose to a life of true "Sweetness and light" in Christ Jesus.

Nevertheless, scars of the old time remained upon him, both literally and figuratively. There was the mark of the blow from a cudgel in some bygone bar-room fight, or from bruises left when one fellow poundred him whilst another held him fast. Moreover, he had unpaid debts to the extent of one thousand, five hundred dollars, and, worst of all, a reputation so bad that the very soldiers were inclined to doubt the genuineness of his conversion, and to throw cold water upon him.

\* \* \* \* \*

It was Christmas-time. The very air seemed hushed with thoughts of peace, and although it was night, there was no darkness, nothing but deep twilight with the snow-flakes descending softly, gently, lovingly, upon the pale untrodden snow, wispswept and shadowless, and around the white mist of the flakes upon the quiet hills and bluffs, upon the ice-imprisoned river and the distant shore of the lake.

Pleasant were Bob's thoughts as he tramped to the Holiness Meeting. Only four years since he was converted—but what a change! The scars were wearing away; his personal appearance was changed; he was well clothed now, and a respected, trusted member of society.

One thousand dollars of his debts already paid up, and in the place of the old log cabin, a comfortable frame house, with forty acres of land cleared; and, in addition to his own three children, in the place of his darling angel child, a little orphan, adopted and cared for at home; best of all with Heaven before him.

Bright and warm was the Backwood's Hall. What though it was but a disused stable! Was it not in a stable that the wise men found the Infant Jesus? What though the walls were rough-hewn from the woods! Was His life all smooth?

Peace without; peace within the little Hall; and peace within Bob's very heart!

## The Best Christmas Gift

By Mrs. Staff-Captain Knight

I was my first appointment in command of a Corps, and I went with some measure of fear and trembling. The Officers whom I was succeeding, who were both talented and good, had won great victories for God. I found a band of good Soldiers, who would do and dare anything for God and souls, and the first Meeting realized much of the Divine presence with us.

After a few weeks I noticed in the congregation a man who sat in the same seat each night and listened attentively, but with a troubled and unhappy look upon his face. I asked the Sergeant-Major who he was and he replied: "Oh that is Mack. He is only here in the summer months. He is boss of a big lumber camp up the Arrowstock. He has been coming here for some time, but he is a great sinner, a hard man with his men, and a notorious blasphemer. He has acknowledged that he feels himself past redemption."

In the Soldiers' Meeting that week we made Mack a subject of special prayer, and one night shortly afterwards his hand was raised, signifying that he desired our prayers. This he did night after night and yet all our pleading and prayers seemed powerless to bring him over the

to or from him, so we expected to have to wait till spring to hear how it fared with him. But early on Christmas morning there was a knock at our Quarters' door and opening it I saw standing there a young man who said, "I wish you a happy Christmas. I am bookkeeper at the camp of which Mack is the boss. When the men found I was coming to the city to spend Christmas they asked me to give you this on Christmas morning." As he spoke he passed an envelope into my hand. I called the Lieutenant, and we sat down and opened it. First I drew out two ten dollar bills sent us as a Christmas gift. But the best gift was contained in the message on the paper which was enclosed and which read like this:

"Out of gratitude for the wonderful change which has been wrought in the life and character of our boss, known to you as Mack, and knowing this has been brought about through the instrumentality of the Salvation Army and the earnest prayers of yourself and your assistant, we, the undersigned, have subscribed this

amount as a small Christmas gift. Praying God will continue to bless your good work." Then followed the signatures of fifteen Englishmen and ten Frenchmen.

Truly ours was a happy Christmas Day. What good news we had to tell the Comrades when we met for our special Christmas service, how our dear absent Comrade was still proving that the World's Redeemer was not only able to deliver, but able to keep him, though surrounded by temptations and deprived of the means of grace.

Perhaps some will say, "Well, the winter was not finished, how did things go on?" To the glory of God let me say that with the coming of spring Mack returned to us with a happy face and a shout of victory.

What the Prince of Peace did for Mack. He is alive and will do for every sin-bound slave who is willing to let Him take possession of heart and life.

Many readers of the "War Cry" do not see a copy of the "Young Soldier," which is our Young People's paper and should have a place in every home. Twelve pages weekly—two cents.

# HOUSEHOLD TROOPS BAND MEMORIES

By Lieut.-Colonel William Nicholson, International Headquarters

**T**HE fact that the first Reunion of the Household Troops Band was held in London, England, recently, after a separation of nearly thirty years, enhances the interest of these notes from a Trooper's diary, especially to those of our readers who are able to recall the Band's campaigning experiences in this country.

Throughout the Dominion of Canada, as elsewhere, reunion and good fellowship are the key notes of the Christmas period. At this season even when it is not possible to actually meet those whom we hold in affectionate remembrance we are at any rate able to unite with them in spirit. So I take it that it will not be out of place if I recall some memories of the famous Household Troops Band with which it was my unforgettable privilege to serve for the first two

eleven o'clock thoroughly tired out, but supremely happy in the assurance that our first Christmas away from the Old Land had been spent in self-forgetful service for the good of others.

If we were asked to put our impressions of our tour through the Dominion of Canada into a single phrase, we should be inclined to call it a good, hearty hand grip. For we were greeted in a spirit of fraternal fellowship everywhere.

To this day we recall many kindly words spoken to us by the Staff Officers of those days, to whose kindly counsel and wise oversight we owed so much. One night journey specially comes to my mind, as I write. We had boarded the cars after having been subjected to the doubtful pleasure of a Canadian bouncing, an ex-

dology of thanksgiving for the forethought which had foreseen from afar the coming of the cold winter snap.

The coldest winter day in the Dominion, is, we found, endurable if there is no wind, but when the thermometer is down and the wind up, it is like pushing one's way through sheet ice, and well, the least said about it the better! During several memorable walks to Sunday knee-drill the tears, which the biting blizzard called forth, froze our lashes down and for a little while our condition was trying. But we pushed on, and when we reached the brightly lit Hall and gathered around the red-hot stove and joined our comrades in songs of praise and prayer for the success of our campaign, all regrets that we had left the cosy beds provided for us by our friends vanished.

After a spell of typical Canadian winter weather—that is, brilliant sunshine, a blue sky, the snow as hard as steel and glistening like countless miniature diamonds—a sudden thaw set in and the sidewalks and roads were awash. Then the frost set in harder than ever, and the roads, roofs, wires and trees were shining with a solid encasement and covering of ice. This made marching tedious work.

To say that our night Meetings were crowded, conveys but the faintest idea of the truth. They were blockaded. There is no other term for it. And what inspiring audiences we were privileged to play to. The veriest dummy would have shown some good points in such circumstances, and we were not dummies.

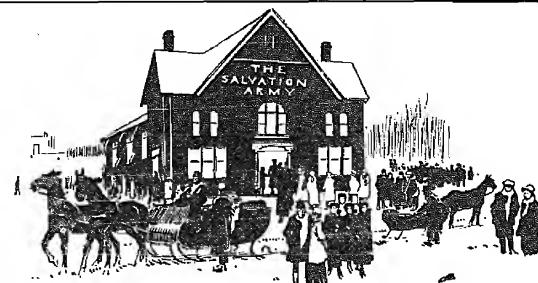
There were occasions when we excelled ourselves, and when our Bandmaster's wonderful cornet won the hearts of the people where the most

as the cutters swerved around and around preparatory to starting, we hailed our fellow Trooper with a hearty "Goodnight, old fellow, God bless you," and with a flick of the whip, we, the favored of the favored, would race along by the towering pines over the moonlit road to our billets, where our hosts would sometimes keep us talking until the small hours about the Army in the Old Land, the General and the Chief of the Staff and then at last we tumbled into our beds, sometimes to dream that with instruments playing and flags waving, we were climbing up the Golden Stairs to Glory!

We rarely walked to engagements in Canada. One or two journeys afoot, however, we remember. On one occasion we were trudging along when a man drove by and invited us to take a seat by his side. So availed ourselves of it. By this time we were taking the forest road hard by an Indian reserve. On we raced through a thoroughly typical bit of Canadian scenery. Before we alighted and thanked our friend for his kindness, he informed us that he entered the country twenty years before from the Old Land with sixteen shillings in his pocket. "Now," said he with a suggestion of honest pride, "I'm worth \$25,000, and own that sawmill we passed away back—timber's my line, boys, timber."

We gave him a parting shot about laying up treasure where moth and rust do not corrupt, and looking at us rather curiously, he thanked us for our word in season.

The rolling panorama of Canadian scenery through which we passed was a never-failing source of interest.



We recall many happy scenes outside the Hall

years of its existence, and I shall be happy indeed if the memories recalled help in any degree to unite us in closer bonds of Army fellowship.

In spirit then let us pull our chairs nearer to the brightly burning stove and I will try to recall some of the recollections of the period when the Household Troops Band campaigned in what we found to be one of the most hospitable countries in the world.

Perhaps my first reference should be to the Christmas day of 1888 which, as my diary assures me, we spent in Toronto, a city which we shall ever hold in fragrant remembrance. On the morning of the 25th we took part in a United Holiness Meeting, and had the satisfaction of seeing a number of seekers surrender fully to Christ. Our diary bears record that more than one of us regarded that particular service as a spiritual epoch in our careers.

I recall that instead of the usual afternoon Meeting, we were hospitably entertained at the house of a well-known friend, Mr. Gooderham, now gone to his everlasting reward, and the weather proving genial, we egged the household with Salvation music on the front lawn. At once an interested crowd assembled, so we seized the opportunity and played, sang and testified for Jesus. At night, amid a blaze of torches, we swept through the city to the Temple, where packed house spent one of the happiest Christmas evenings, if one may judge by the sea of smiling faces and the hearty character of the applause.

We reached our billets at about

experience which is as boisterous as it is elevating, and were all settling down for a long railway run, when an Officer standing at the car end, addressed us very helpfully in the most natural and informal way, and then, while the engine bell clanged, awakening the echoes of the night as we sped through the darkness, he committed us into the care of God, and soon we were as fast asleep as though we had been in our beds at home. On the occasion referred to we recall our special car bore, in large striking letters, the announcement: "The Household Troops Band from England," so that early or late, wherever we stopped, the general public were left in no manner of doubt concerning our identity.

We suppose on a push we could have got through the winter without any special provision being made for us in the way of clothing. Those concerned saw to it that we were well supplied with warm, fleecy capes, with collars of enormous width, and beaver caps, which, on occasion, we could pull down over our ears, when necessary, for which more than one English mother breathed benedictions on the heads of those whose kind thought had made the necessary provision for their boys. By the time we were fully attired, from our fur-covered craniums to our tootie warm feet, which were encased in comfortable overshoes, we were proof against the severest weather, and when now and then the thermometer went thumping down, as it did upon one occasion to thirty-five below zero, we sang a

earnest and polished address might have failed. What happy pictures we can recall of those winter evenings, when, the Meetings over, we separated outside the Hall, where dozens of sleighs and cutters were seen moving about in the moonlight, preparatory to the long race over the frozen snow to our billets. While the harness and sleigh-bells jingled

Again and again we would turn aside from our task to feast our eyes upon Nature's lavish display of forest, river, and hill and valley.

We started out upon a journey, which we shall never forget, one stormy morning. The St. Lawrence was all but impassable with ice-floes. It was quite an arctic scene. (Continued on page 21.)

# Thirty-f

**T**HIRTY-TWO Christmases in Canada! It looks as though I shall be regarded as one of the oldest inhabitants, even though I cannot say that "I was riz round these parts," as was the language of a native of Oakville, I think it was, to an old Staff Bandsman.

I have been looking back over the years (one always does that at Christmas) and passing my life in solemn review, with the outstanding thought, "Why in Canada? How did it happen that the cream of my life should be spent in the land of the Maple?"

And the answer is this: One Saturday afternoon, in either 1880 or 1881, two little boys found their way to Hall on North Street, Bristol, where a Salvation Army girl Captain was conducting a meeting for children. Both these boys went forward ere the close of the meeting, and cried tears over their sins. From that moment little George Attwell's path to salvation seemed to all lead to the Salvation Army. Asked some years later what I was going to make of myself when I became a man, my answer was "A Salvation Army Officer," and that time I was not converted! "Little Soldier Army," to which belonged, had dropped out of existence and my two brass S's were laid aside. But I still retained my intense love for the Army and while living in the pretty little Kentish town of Sittingbourne, one Sunday evening I made the decisive step that settled the matter, both of my personal acceptance with God and my future career.

## My first appointment

After my training at Batt and Clapton, Commissioner H... called me into his office and informed me that I was appointed to France, seeing they were badly in need of Officers. I had a fair school education in the French language that accounted for my appointment. I went home to say "farewell" to my mother and father, my mother especially being sure she would never see me again. (France is twenty miles distant from the coast of Kent.) I returned to London March morning in 1891, the arrangements being that I should go to Charing Cross Station the morning for France. But "the Lord laid plaus of mice and men geagley." (No disrespect, of course, to my superior Officers who were to "mice and men.") French needed help as well as France, after a short spell in the International Department at International quarters, I sailed from Liverpool on the S.S. Sardinian. Before reaching my adopted country I became humble and very much sea-tenant, never rising from my bunk from the hour we left Liverpool until we reached smooth water in the Straits of Belle Isle. We reached Montreal about 1:30 p.m. on a hot Sunday afternoon in August. I had ten cents in my pocket. I was sure the Army would meet me, and ... they did. As a matter of fact, I was many days before Headquarters knew it. The Divisional commander (now known as C... shall) had me at work in



"Timber's my line, boys, timber."



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as the cutters swerved around and  
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We rarely walked to engagements in Canada. One or two journeys afoot, however, we remember. On one occasion we were trudging along when a man drove by and invited us to take a seat by his side. So cordial was the invitation, that we availed ourselves of it. By this time we were taking the forest road hard by an Indian reserve. On we raced through a thoroughly typical bit of Canadian scenery. Before we alighted and thanked our friend for his kindness, he informed us that he entered the country twenty years before from the Old Land with sixteen shillings in his pocket. "Now," said he with a suggestion of honest pride, "I'm worth \$25,000, and own that sawmill we passed away back—timber's my line, boys, timber."

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(Continued on page 21.)

# Thirty-two Christmases in Canada

By Brigadier George Attwell

**T**HIRTY-TWO Christmases in Canada! It looks as though I shall be regarded as one of the oldest inhabitants, even though I cannot say that "I was riz 'round these parts," as was the language of a native of Oakville, I think it was, to an old Staff Bandsman.

I have been looking back over the years (one always does that at Christmas) and passing my life in solemn review, with the outstanding thought, "Why in Canada? How did it happen that the cream of my life should be spent in the land of the Maple?"

And the answer is this: One Saturday afternoon, in either 1880 or 1881, two little boys found their way to a Hall on North Street, Bristol, where a Salvation Army girl Captain was conducting a meeting for children. Both these boys went forward ere the close of the meeting, and cried real tears over their sins. From that moment little George Attwell's path in life seemed to all lead to the Salvation Army. Asked some years later what I was going to make of myself when I became a man, my answer was "A Salvation Army Officer," and at that time I was not converted! The "Little Soldier Army," to which I belonged, had dropped out of existence and my two brass S's were laid aside. But I still retained my intense love for the Army and while living in the pretty little Kentish town of Sittingbourne, one Sunday evening I took the decisive step that settled the matter, both of my personal acceptance with God and my future career.

#### My first appointment

After my training at Battersea and Clapton, Commissioner Howard called me into his office and informed me that I was appointed to France, seeing they were badly in need of Officers. I had a fair school education in the French language and that accounted for my appointment. I went home to say "farewell" to my mother and father, my mother especially being sure she would never see me again. (France is twenty-one miles distant from the coast of Kent.) I returned to London one March morning in 1891, the arrangements being that I should leave Charing Cross Station the same morning for France. But "the well laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley." (No disrespect, of course, to my superior Officers when referring to "men and men.") French Canada needed help as well as France, and after a short spell in the Shipping Department at International Headquarters, I sailed from Liverpool on the S.S. Sardinian. Before I sighted my adopted country I became a humble and very much sea-sick Lieutenant, never rising from my berth from the hour we left Londonderry until we reached smooth water in the Straits of Belle Isle. We arrived in Montreal about 1.30 p.m. on a very hot Sunday afternoon in August. I had ten cents in my pocket, but I was sure the Army would be there to meet me, and . . . they were not! As a matter of fact, I was in Canada many days before Headquarters in Toronto knew it. The Divisional Commander (now known as Colonel Marshall) had me at work in his office on

#### \$3.00 a week!

The next Christmas found me acting as cashier at the Toronto Divisional Headquarters at Lippincott. I received the princely sum of \$3.00 per week and my board. Those were happy days. The country itself was almost bankrupt. Poor crops and business depression had a reflex action on our work. One of my experiences as Cashier was to go to the firms from which we ordered our bricks and lumber for the Jubilee Hall at the Temple, and tell them we had no money, and beg them not to press for payment for a few months.

Christmas, 1895, found me traveling through Ontario organizing the Junior work at Corps where this side of our operations had been neglected. It was a good work and my heart was in it. We had been guilty of overlooking the importance of the Young People, and no time was to be lost.

Then followed my first appointment as a Field Officer at an English speak-

company of Salvationists that went down in the "Empress of Ireland" on May 29th, 1914! What a re-union!

The Army has come through great tribulations in Canada, but it is a better Army for it. Think of our Life-Saving Scouts and Guards. Think of our splendid Brass Bands. Think of our growing Junior Corps. There are more Officers on our Canada East Roll than we ever had before, in spite of the fact that Canada West operates in all the Territory West of Fort William. Think of Toronto with twenty-four Corps in full operation, and no less than fourteen Brass Bands. Think of our Home Leagues, our Songster Brigades, our Fresh Air Camps, our Hospitals, our Shelters and our Salvages. These were all unknown to us thirty years ago.

And then the general public understand us better. They come to our annual Self-Denial result was about \$6,000. Last year we raised \$245,000. A cause for encouragement surely. The early Canadian Leaders were of sterling character and one feels compelled to offer a tribute of praise to them. They kept the Flag at the masthead under most trying circumstances. Let me instance a few from memory. Think of the Temple Corps so low that the march down Yonge Street showed a drummer, a Flag Sergeant and two Officers. Think of Dovercourt Corps with an average of seventeen people at the Sunday night service. This was the yearly average in company with Adjutant Adams who went to his reward many years ago, I spent my Saturday afternoon painting the interior of the Hall. The Corps could not possibly raise \$25,000 so we tackled it ourselves. Was Toronto bad only two or three Soldiers, and I was present at the closing up of the Hall. Old Number (now Tecumseh Street) dropped down to less than ten on the Roll.

#### Almost unbelievable!

There were only seven Corps in Toronto, and some of these were almost down and out, as I have already shown. Of course, the country itself at that time was in a bad way. Starvation seemed to be the order of the day, and naturally we suffered many ways. But in spite of such severe discouragement, we did not lose heart. "The old guard dies, but never surrenders." And what is the result? Look at the Corps mentioned and contrast their splendid position to-day with their condition twenty-seven twenty-eight years ago! It seems most unbelievable, but nevertheless true, and it is equally applicable most of our Canadian Corps. As I again say, all honor to the faithful Soldiers and Officers of the past days who held on in the dark, and refused to go under. The Army holds its head high.

We know where our duty lies, what our obligations are. It is privilege to push on! The best defense is an active offensive. Learn that during the Great War.

In common with all my readers hope to see at least thirty more years in Canada! If that be granted and there be room in the Christmas "War Cry" of 1952, I shall be happy to record my impressions up to

## MY CHRISTMAS PRESENT A GOVERNESS'S STORY

Told by Commissioner Duff, International Headquarters

I was in Germany—when I was quite a little girl. I recollect it so well. I had nice Christmas gifts from papa and my sisters and aunts, and I liked them very much, but my mother gave me something that I treasured far above all. It was a little wax figure of the infant Jesus. He was lying all dimpled and smiling in a little wooden manger, and as I looked I felt as if it was a real model of the Lord Himself. Oh, how I did love that little wax figure! I used to have it in my room, and many, many times a day I would kiss the little hands. I never could say my prayers properly unless I could kneel before the little manger and look at the Saviour as I prayed. It was really an idol to me. I loved it so. After a bit my conscience began to speak to me about it. I was learning the Commandments, and when I came to the one:

"Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image; thou shalt not bow down to them nor worship them," something said to me. "How about your 'graven image' of Jesus?"

But I used to think, "Oh, no! It can't mean that; it can't be wrong; mother gave it to me, and she meant that I should prize it," and so I stifled my conscience and went on loving and almost worshipping my little idol.

Looking back, it seems wonderful that I could have had such battles

over it, it was such a little thing, but for quite a time it seemed to get between me and God; and yet I loved it so! And it was surely right to love it, for was it not meant to lead my thoughts to Bethlehem, and was it not therefore holy? And so I went on arguing, trying to make out that all was right when all was wrong.

At last, one night, I woke up. Everything was still. The moon shone coldly through the window, and its beams fell on the little manger with the Baby in it. How beautiful it looked! All at once I thought of the real living Jesus. How He was looking from heaven just now and watching me, more taken up with the little wax figure than with His living, blessed Self! In an instant my mind was made up. I jumped out of bed, and barefoot, in my little white nightdress, I went and stood by the table on which the manger was standing. I do believe that at that moment my childish heart must have felt some of the conflicting emotions that tore the heart of the patriarch, as he stood by the altar on which his Isaac lay.

"Lord," I said in a very faltering

voice, "I do love Thee better than this little doll, although it is very, very beautiful—" and here my tears began to flow. "I do love it very much."

And then, deliberately, I lifted the little figure out of the manger, and with streaming eyes and heavy-breath, I broke it in pieces. The little head, arms, feet—I broke them all off one after another, with my own child-like heart nearly breaking all the time, and no one was there to hinder me. No voice called from heaven as it did to Abraham. The moonbeams shone on, cold and still, and my sister breathed regularly in the little bed next to my own. But I had done it! I had "hewed Agag in pieces before the Lord"; and though if you had come, you would have only found a very woe-begone little white heap sobbing out its griefs on the floor, yet God knew, and my own heart knew, that victory had been fought and won, and not a small one either.

Next morning, when I woke, it was with peace in my heart. God and I were one again. Nothing else mattered. Even the dismay of the other children over the broken figure did not affect me. I told it all to

my mother, and she and I together placed the fragments gently in the fire, and watched them melt down into a clear steady flame. Oh, how we did praise God together, giving me strength to, prefer His smile to all else.

I was a little child when our governess told me this page from her own life; but I have never forgotten it.

Often since, the example of the little child breaking her own idol has helped me and led me forward. So often cling to our own Isaacs till God has to take them from us, but how far nobler and better to cast them at His feet, and indeed to crown Him Lord of all!

Often it is something which is meant to lead us higher—some trial, and, in itself, good possession; but if it draws our eyes to itself from the living Christ, if it takes up our hearts and minds—God is a jealous God—and we retain this treasure at the expense, it may be, of our own soul.

Oh! shall we not this Christmas, follow in the steps of our Saviour God, and sacrifice—not merely to the altar—but sacrifice? Shall we not embrace the wondrous privilege of offering to Jesus, as our Christmas gift, our best and most valued treasures, and let them henceforth be His—His to eternity, ours to do as we like with never more?

## JOYS FOR THE JOYLESS

**Big Plans for Helping and Cheering the Distressed During Christmas**

The Salvation Army's long-established custom of making special efforts at Christmas to brighten the lives of persons whose lot in life is hard is already engaging the attention of the responsible Officers. By the time these pages are in the hands of our readers, innumerable and far-reaching plans will be perfected. Colonel Otway, Secretary for the Men's Social, and Brigadier Desfrisay of the Women's Social, with their respective Staffs, are working out a generous and thoroughly practical scheme for making thousands happy at Christmas.

It is anticipated that the number of poor families who will be the happy recipients of baskets of provisions will this year be larger than heretofore. Special care being taken by means of personal investigation to ensure these gifts reaching those who are really in need.

Arrangements are also made for the wives and families of men in prison to be specially looked after including the provision of toys for the little ones. The men will not be forgotten, while a number of them will be visited and where circumstances permit Band and Songster Brigades will go to various Institutions for the purpose of cheering the people therein. The Commissioner is visiting three separate Institutions on New Year's Day.

In all Salvation Army Institutions, such as Metropoles, Rescue Homes, Industrial Homes and Hostels, as well as Children's Homes and Hospitals, there will be bright and happy seasons in which well spread tables, music, singing and Christmas cheer will play a part.

As will be seen the provision of all this cheer will involve a considerable outlay and to give our friends an opportunity of participating in the first Christmas pots, with Salvation Army Officers in attendance will this year, as in times past, figure on the docket. It is hoped that the response will be in keeping with the real needs which have to be met.



Lieut.-Colonel Richard Abby, Candidates' Secretary, Territorial Headquarters, with Mrs. Abby

## The Army at Work in Canadian Prisons

Testimony by a Prisoner

SOME of the privileges allowed to persons undergoing confinement in penal institutions in Canada East are intensely human. One of these is the publication within certain prison walls of a little sheet known as the "Weekly Echo," the Editor being himself a prisoner.

How that gentleman feels toward the Salvation Army may be judged by the following matter from his pen:

"Of all stories, perhaps the one that has brought most hope and encouragement to men incarcerated in penitentiary and corrective institutions is that of the Prodigal Son.

"We who have wandered away from the home, home influences and home companions, and have plunged ourselves deeply into sin, find in this story of the Prodigal Son, a blessed hope and promise for us. It helps us to understand that we are not beyond recovery, and not lost for all time. There is still a chance to make good. We can come back."

"The Salvation Army not only preaches love and helpfulness, but it practices the principles it preaches. That is why so many thousands of men who are in trouble turn to the Army for material help, and are eventually led to seek Salvation."

meaning. In every institution Salvation Army Officers are ready and anxious to show men how to live happier, healthier and better lives. And the Army is prepared to go further, it seeks to help men in a material sense as well as in spiritual things.

"I have learned from experience in this institution that the Salvation Army Officers are dedicated to the principles of helpfulness. This helpfulness covers not only the work they carry on so splendidly and persistently in their efforts to bring men closer to God, but is demonstrated in the assistance they give in so many other ways—seeking employment for men who are to be paroled, writing their letters, giving them kindly advice, and serving them in little missions of various kinds to friends and loved ones in the outside world.

"The Salvation Army not only preaches love and helpfulness, but it practices the principles it preaches. That is why so many thousands of men who are in trouble turn to the Army for material help, and are eventually led to seek Salvation."

## CHRISTMAS ON THREE CONTINENTS

(Continued from page 7.)

Calcutta, from Tokio to Montreal, from Melbourne to Copenhagen, the Army Officers and Soldiers will again this Christmas, in the homes of poverty and want as well as to the thousands of inmates in our Institutions, provide a measure of that joy, peace and comfort that our Saviour can on earth to bring.

We regret that contrary to expectation, it is impossible to include in the present issue the photos of a number of Comrades, Herdsmen as well as Officers, who have done exceptionally good work in getting the "War Cry" into the hands of customers. As soon as a representative collection of photos can be completed, we shall be glad to reproduce them. Meanwhile our best thanks are tendered to one and all who, often at personal sacrifice as we know, aid in spreading this Journal as widely as possible.

Full information as to what is required of Candidates for Officership in the Salvation Army may be obtained on application to any responsible Officer, or direct from Territorial Headquarters, Albert Street, Toronto.

## THE SILENT WORKER

Why fret you at your work because The deaf world does not hear and praise?

Were it so bad, O workman true,  
To work in silence all your days?

I hear the traffic in the street,  
But not the white worlds o'er the town

I heard the gun at sunset roar,  
I did not hear the sun go down.  
Are work and workmen greater when  
The trumpet blows their lone abroad?

Nowhere on earth is found the man  
Who works as silently as God!

## Little Jacob

A STORY

"FATHER, can I go on to-night, on the Little Jacob pulled his father's outer garment and wistfully up at him with eyes like his mother's.

Rachel, too, looked up from her cradling baby in her arms.

"May he not go, David? You promised him to go some time when the child here is sick. It will be quietier, if Jacob be with you.

"The boy shall go," answered David, "but he must sleep now. There is no sleep for him; the wolves have come down from the mountain, and we keep open eyes and strict watch to-night; but let him be ready at sunset. Is my son Rachel?"

"It is filled, and the water-ready."

So David left the little hut of Bethlehem and went to his place in the field; and when the sun had set hotly down at noon, Jacob crept on a mat in the corner and slept sweetly, for he longed to be at night among the sheep and the watching shepherds, and hid his own little sling and smooth pebbles inside his coat, hoping to slay a wolf.

Then the night came soft and Judea: the gentle winds hushed whispering; the distant Kedron sung a sleepy song, a wide, brown waste of the flocks lay like heaps of fallen gray in the dim light, and except when some tiny lamp for the mother it could not close its half-opened eyes. Jacob tightly to David's hand: then the darkness awoke him and seemed to meet the sky; he saw only a broken line on that horizon where the roofs of hem, low and flat, crowned top; his hand grew chilly in er's, and David saw the afraid. He spoke to the herdsmen, who sat or stood a flock:

"Let us sing the old bretheren: for the child is born the night, and remember the Shepherd of Israel is. So two of the men began low voices, to chant—

The Lord is my shepherd and then the rest answered,

I shall not want.

And the first two sang again,

He maketh me to green pastures.

And another response came,

He leadeth me beside waters,

So they went on through psalm, and Jacob listened and that God was there in the plain. When the psalm was over he walked about the site and held his sling ready wolf in the foreground. He came: the night was still, the dark blue sky was a splendid stars, shining as they wheeled slowly across—so slowly that little Jacob see them move. He did not much, for the stillness was great on his lips, but he gazed upwards with wonder when his father looked and smiled. Jacob heard

ly: The heavens declare of God.  
And the ornaments handwork.

other, and she and I together  
the fragments gently in the  
and watched them melt down  
praise God together for  
my strength to prefer her  
to all else.

as a little child when our  
eyes told me this page from her  
fe; but I have never forgot-

1 since, the example of the  
child breaking her own idea  
pe and led me forward  
often cling to our own  
till God has to take them  
us, but how far nobler and  
o cast them at His feet, and  
to crown Him Lord of all!  
it is something which is  
o lead us higher—some  
in itself, good possession,  
draws our eyes to itself  
the living Christ, if it takes  
hearts and minds—God is a  
God—and we retain this  
at the expense, it may be,

own soul.  
shall we not this Christmas  
in the steps of our Saviour  
sacrifice—not merely the  
altar—but sacrifice? Shall  
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(Continued from page 7.)

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"Let us sing the folding psalm,  
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the night, and remembereth not  
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low voices, to chant—

## Little Jacob's Christmas

### A STORY OF THE PAST

**F**ATHER, can I go out with  
you to-night, on the plain?"

Little Jacob pulled at his  
father's outer garment and looked  
wistfully up at him with great soft  
eyes like his mother's.

Rachel, too, looked up from the  
wailing baby in her arms.

"May he not go, David? You have  
promised him to go some time, and  
the child here is sick. It will be  
midnight, and David had sat down to rest.

"The boy shall go," answered  
David, "but he must sleep now, for  
there is no sleep for him there. The  
wolves have come down from Lebanon,  
and we keep open eyes and trembling  
knees; for in an instant, without  
sound or sigh, the wide heavens were  
filled with light and glory, brighter  
than the sun at noon; the stars were  
drowned in light, the radiance flowed in  
waves of splendor from mid-  
heaven down to earth, and then, in  
the deepest depths of glory far above  
their heads, in the heart of all the  
shining, appeared a great angel, with  
robes of whiteness brighter than the  
gathered light, and a face calm with  
awful gladness; and the shepherds  
were sore afraid, for they thought the  
Day of the Lord was come. But the  
angel smiled upon them like the sun  
shining in its strength, and spoke like  
the voice of the sea for might, yet  
sweeter than the turtle-doves amid  
the cedars of Lebanon, and he said  
unto them:

"Fear not! For behold I bring you  
good tidings of great joy, which shall  
be to all people. For unto you is born  
this day, in the city of David, a Sav-  
ior, which is Christ the Lord! And  
this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall  
find the babe wrapped in swaddling-  
clothes, lying in a manger."

Little Jacob heard these words, but  
he knew them not, except the name of  
Messiah, for whom he often had  
heard his mother pray in the  
evening time, but now, while the glad  
tidings sounded still, behold! from the  
bright depths of heaven came angel  
after angel, countless as the hidden  
stars, and radiant as light itself;  
their stainless ranks rayed outward  
from the vast, calm shape of the Her-  
ald Angel like beams from the morn-  
ing sun, and with a great sound like  
the flowing of some mighty stream,  
they sang the song of heaven, "Glory to God in the highest!"

The Lord is my shepherd;  
and then the rest answered:

I shall not want.

And the first two sang again—

He maketh me to lie down in  
green pastures.

And another response came:

He leadeth me beside the still  
waters.

So they went on through the beautiful  
psalm, and Jacob listened and felt sure  
that God was there in the night. When  
the psalm was over, he sat down on the plain beside his father,  
or walked about the sleeping sheep,  
and held his sling ready to strike a  
wolf in the forehead. But no wolves  
came; the night was still and soft,  
the dark blue sky was all alight with  
splendid stars, shining and glittering  
as they wheeled slowly across the sky—  
so slowly that little Jacob could not  
see them move. He did not speak  
much, for the stillness was like finger-  
on his lips, but he watched the  
heavens with wondering eyes, and  
when his father looked down at him  
and smiled, Jacob heard him say softly:

The heavens declare the glory  
of God.  
And the instrument showeth His  
handiwork.

Day unto day uttereth speech,  
And night unto night sheweth  
knowledge.

Then Jacob began to wonder how the  
days spoke; if it was with noisy  
winds, or birds singing, or the sound  
of waters far off; and then he fell  
into a kind of dream, leaning against  
his father's knee, for it was almost  
midnight, and David had sat down to rest.

But suddenly, in one breathless mo-  
ment, both David and Jacob sprang  
to their feet, and all the other shep-  
herds crowded up to them with pale  
faces, and open eyes, and trembling  
knees; for in an instant, without  
sound or sigh, the wide heavens were  
filled with light and glory, brighter  
than the sun at noon; the stars were  
drowned in light, the radiance flowed in  
waves of splendor from mid-  
heaven down to earth, and then, in  
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ing sun, and with a great sound like  
the flowing of some mighty stream,  
they sang the song of heaven, "Glory to God in the highest!"

On earth peace;  
Good-will toward men.

The wondrous sound thrilled all the  
high and glowing heaven, and then,  
still with strains of glory and peace  
ringing above and falling fairer and  
fairer to those below, rank folded in  
on rank, the Angel of the Lord leading  
upward, and the awful splendor  
gathering up about them, they soared into  
that glory, and the glory shrouded  
their departing cohorts, and the  
dark midnight sky, feebly starred now  
to the shepherds' smitten eyes, bent  
its purple arch again above unen-  
cious earth.

David stooped and lifted Jacob in  
his arms; neither of them could  
speak, but old Simeon, the oldest of  
all the Bethlehem shepherds, bent low,  
and, with uncovered head, began the  
chant.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord!  
Let us make a joyful noise unto  
the Rock of our Salvation!

With low voices they sang the psalm  
through, as they turned from the plain  
toward Bethlehem, forger of their  
flocks and herds, caring for nothing  
but to find the Messiah, the baby in  
the manger, the Son of God.

And there, indeed, in a rude cavern,  
where the beasts of burden were shel-

## Household Troops Band Memories

(Continued from page 18.)

At length we got off the train on  
the other side after the snowploughs  
had been ahead making the line clear.  
Then slowly we puffed along under  
dark snow sheds and right clean bang  
into an enormous drift. And there  
we stuck. Engines and snow ploughs  
at length having done their work, we  
crept on again for a few miles, only  
to be "held up" again. It was hard to  
improve the shining hour on this  
occasion! The long stony day passed,  
and still we were an enormous distance  
from our evening's appoint-

by our friend and comrade, Trooper  
Adjutant Harry Green, who was pro-  
moted to glory when the "Empress of Ireland"  
foundered, conveys some  
idea of the kind of items we rendered  
before our Canadian audiences.

Here and there between the quick-  
change programme, which, of course,  
included marches and selections by  
the Band, a Trooper would be called  
upon to testify for Christ. We were  
on our mettle then. May we ever  
maintain the simplicity of those early-  
day testimonies! Once during every  
festival, a comrade was called for-  
ward to tell in brief the history of  
the Band. This little tabloid lectur-  
ette was always listened to with keen  
interest.

The Meeting always steadied down  
during the second hour. Not at once,  
but skilfully piloted it quietened down  
slowly and surely, and invariably  
realized the great object for which  
Salvation Festivals are held.

By the time "When Satan comes in  
like a flood, God lifts His standard  
high" was sung, everybody was in  
the spirit for the Prayer Meeting, and  
if, before the benediction was pro-  
nounced, we had been able to lend a  
hand in leading souls to the mercy-  
seat, we felt that we had been more  
than repaid for all our effort.

Our good-bye meeting with the  
Territorial Leader was a little in-  
formed affair, but it left its impress  
on our minds and hearts. We were  
exhorted to be as good, loyal and  
zealous as we were expected to be,  
and a few words of kindly counsel  
were added, then we knelt together,  
and were committed into the care of  
God, and with the benedictions of our  
Canadian comrades and friends ringing  
in our ears, we crossed a bridge so  
easily and in such a few minutes,  
that we could not realize that our  
Canadian tour was at an end, that



Lieut.-Colonel Nicholson

ment, and our provisions had run out,  
the steam had gone off.

All too soon came our last Musical  
Festival in Canada. These festivals  
were, in our humble judgment, models  
of what such functions ought to be.  
The reader must, of course, make  
every allowance for bias, for we own  
frankly to a prejudice in favor of the  
programmes rendered during that  
memorable Campaign during which  
many of our engagements concluded  
with broken-hearted seekers at the  
mercy-seat.

The lighter section of the festival  
always came first. For sixty minutes,  
or thereabouts, the place would frequently  
re-echo with the thumper of clapping hands as song after song was  
sung. Good, hearty laughter generally  
followed some of the items on the  
programme. The infinitely-rendered  
"Knee-Drill Song" was pronounced to  
be worth a dollar in itself, while the  
"Drum Song" to the tune of "Slap,  
hang, here we are again," was reckoned  
even higher in value. The "Amen  
Song" with its "volley" at the end of  
every verse, which we gave with all  
the stops out, springing to our feet  
to do so, several times during the  
song, was a very popular feature.  
"The Army A.P.C." was pronounced  
first rate, and was never sung for the  
first time before a Canadian audience  
without meeting with a good reception.  
Such striking and original songs as these were rendered between the  
various instrumental items, to  
mention one of which, to wit, the inspiring  
Salvation music on piano forte

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for better, or worse, it had gone, that  
even God Himself could not recall the  
opportunities that once were ours.

You may be sure we crossed the  
border from St. Stephen to Calais in  
a sober frame of mind, and that more  
than once we cast a longing, finger-  
ing look behind."

the inn heard it and adored. Mary  
shut up all these things in her heart,  
and little Jacob gazed on the calm,  
sad face of the Mighty Child, and  
went away with a vision in his soul  
that never left it while life remained.  
"And the shepherds returned, glorifying  
and praising God for all the  
things that they had heard and seen,  
as it was told unto them."

This was little Jacob's Christmas.

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# THE "WAR CRY" ALMANAC

## JANUARY

M 1 Continue in prayer and watch.  
T 2 I have laid up for God.  
V 3 Be not weary in well-doing.  
Th 4 Let the weak say, "I am strong!"  
F 5 Thou only makest me dwell in safety.  
S 6 If we suffer we shall also reign with him.  
M 7 The righteous man shall live by faith.  
T 8 I believed Christ's sufferer. [much.]  
W 9 The Lord will give strength to His people.  
T 10 Mortify the deeds of the flesh.  
T 11 Sin hath no dominion over us.  
F 12 Be sanctified in all things.  
S 13 Christ liveth in me.  
M 14 Make me know how frail I am.  
T 15 Avoid unprofitable conversation.  
W 16 He that very much offendeth thee.  
Th 17 I will make it a blessing.  
F 18 In Thee, O Lord, do I hope.  
S 19 With God all things are possible.  
S 20 We are co-workers with God.  
M 21 Make all thy work done in love.  
T 22 Thou shalt be His witness to all men.  
W 23 Wait on the Lord, be of good cheer.  
Th 24 I will be glad and rejoice in Thee.  
F 25 Go, and I will bless thee.  
S 26 The blood of Christ maketh Atonement.  
S 27 The joy of the Lord is your strength.  
M 28 Go on to perfection.  
T 29 Repent ye and believe the Gospel.  
W 30 Continue ye in My love.

## FEBRUARY

Th 1 The Lord preserveth the faithful. [you.]  
The Lord's faithful ones shall establish  
Redemption through the Blood of Jesus.  
S 3 Be it unto me according to Thy Word.  
M 4 He that believeth on God.  
T 5 Let brotherly love continue.  
W 6 Walk in the Spirit, and thou shalt live.  
T 7 Do not your sins before men.  
F 8 Enter not into temptation.  
S 9 Strive to enter at the strait gate.  
M 10 Abstain from all evil. [Rememberance.]  
T 11 We have an Advocate with the Father.  
W 12 He giveth power to the faint.  
T 13 The servant of the Lord must not strive.  
F 14 The world doth not abide in his presence.  
S 15 Glory and honor are in His presence.  
S 16 I will put My Spirit within you.  
M 17 Ask in faith, nothing doubting.  
T 18 Believe thyself to be the Son of God.  
W 19 Doubt thou hellfire? Is the Son of God?  
T 20 Thou art my hiding place.  
F 21 Christ died for the ungodly.  
S 22 Boost not thyself of to-morrow.  
S 23 The Lord is my strength and song.  
M 24 Thee which I love, I will come.  
T 25 My heart shall rejoice in Thy Salvation.  
W 26 The Lord shall be thy everlasting light.

## MARCH

T 1 The fear of man bringeth a snare.  
F 2 We are made nigh by the Blood of Christ.  
S 3 The King of Heaven is within you.  
M 4 Seek ye life, and ye shall live.  
T 5 Walk in the Spirit.  
W 6 Whosoever humbleth himself shall be  
Reigned over by the Lord. [testament.]  
T 7 Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.  
S 8 Being now justified by His Blood.  
S 9 Not as I will, but as Thou wilt.  
M 10 I know that My Redeemer liveth.  
T 11 And he cometh speedily. [testify.]  
W 12 The fire shall try every man's work.  
T 13 Pour out thy heart before God.  
F 14 He will strengthen and settle thy soul.  
S 15 Ye have not received the spirit of bondage,  
But of sonship; for when ye were sons of bondage.  
M 16 Be filled with the Holy Ghost.  
T 17 There is a death that never dies.  
W 18 A wounded spirit who can bear?  
T 19 The mind of man of life we are not.  
F 20 I live by faith in the Son of God.  
S 21 God turns our mourning into joy.  
S 22 Seek not the热闹 that comest of  
Stand up and bless the Lord. [men.]  
T 23 Make straight the way before the Lord.  
W 24 Cease from anger, and fret not.  
F 25 He shall choose our inheritance.  
S 26 The law is not made for the righteous.

## APRIL

S 1 Grieve not the Holy Spirit.  
The Spirit helpeth our infirmities.  
M 2 Thou hast girded me with strength.  
T 3 Walk in the light of the Lord.  
W 4 With God all things are possible.  
F 5 The coming of the Lord draweth nigh.  
S 6 Let Thy mercies come unto me.  
M 7 Come into my clearest light, O Lord.  
T 8 I will pour out my spirit upon you.  
W 9 I will praise Thee with my whole heart.  
T 10 Before I was afflicted I went astray.  
T 11 Thou art my hiding place and my shield.  
F 12 Hide me in the secret of thy presence.  
S 13 In Thy presence is fullness of joy.  
S 14 While ye have light, believe in the light.  
M 15 Renew a right spirit within me.  
T 16 I will therefore walk uprightly.  
W 17 Walk as children of light, for surely.  
T 18 With loving kindness have I drawn thee.  
F 19 I will declare Thy name unto My brethren.  
S 20 He will hear thy backsliding.  
M 21 I will cast off my sins.  
T 22 I will put a new spirit within you.  
F 23 We love Him because He first loved us.  
S 24 The promise may be far off or nigh.  
T 25 I will therefore count the grace of God before you.  
F 26 Cleave unto the Lord thy God, forever.  
S 27 Behold, we count them happy, which.  
S 28 Faith, if it hath not works, is dead.  
M 29 Pray without ceasing.

## MAY

T 1 God and His Spirit hath sent me.  
W 2 My soul shall exalt her boast in the Lord.  
Th 3 All we like sheep have gone astray.  
F 4 Endure hardness as a good Soldier of  
S 5 Christ died for our sins. [Jesus] [testimony.]  
M 6 Come let us worship before the Lord.  
T 7 God is my refuge, for He is my strength.  
W 8 Fear not for I have redeemed thee.  
T 9 I sought the Lord, and He heard me.  
W 10 Hold thou me up and I shall be safe.  
F 11 I will serve thee before the saints.  
S 12 Be sober, and watch unto prayer.  
M 13 Ask for the old paths, and walk therein.  
T 14 Now are ye light in the Lord.  
W 15 Look unto Me, and be ye saved.  
T 16 Be not weary in well-doing.  
F 17 Fear the Lord and serve Him.  
S 18 Preaching peace by Jesus Christ.  
M 19 Pray without ceasing.  
T 20 Do not work for man to undertake you.  
W 21 The Spirit beareth witness with us.  
T 22 We have access by the Spirit.  
W 23 Let us put on the armor of light.  
T 24 He filleth the hungry soul with goodness.  
W 25 Stand fast in one Spirit. [the] [testimony.]  
T 26 They that seek Me early shall find Me.  
M 27 He shall give His angels charge over you.  
T 28 Stand fast in one Spirit.  
W 29 I will teach you to pray.  
T 30 Thou art my rock and my fortress.  
W 31 There is forgiveness with Thee.

## JUNE

F 1 I am with you in the Spirit.  
S 2 Be thou also in the righteousness.  
M 3 Speak to the people the words of life.  
T 4 Was ever sorrow like My sorrow?  
W 5 What concord hath Christ with Belial?  
T 6 The Lord is not slack concerning His  
W 7 Love. Give ye diligence to be found in His grace.  
T 8 The Lord knoweth how to deliver us.  
S 9 His banner over me is love. [Indicates]  
M 10 Our testimony among you was believed.  
T 11 See, I have told you from the beginning.  
W 12 My Spirit shall not always strive with  
T 13 Sing ye praises with understanding, finally.  
F 14 Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me.  
P 15 Pray for one another.  
S 16 The spirit of the world is dead.  
M 17 Ye shall be witnesses unto Me.  
T 18 Your sorrow shall be turned into joy.  
W 19 Walk in justice, mercy, and truth.  
T 20 Ye are the children of light.  
F 21 The Spirit of wisdom and of understanding.  
S 22 whatsoever is right I will give you.  
M 23 I will give thee a crown of life.  
T 24 Earnestly contend for the faith.  
W 25 As I have taught from the beginning.  
M 26 Beloved, follow that which is good.  
T 27 God hath given to us eternal life.  
W 28 Watch therefore unto prayer.  
F 29 He doth the will of God abideth for  
S 30 God hath given thee strength. [ever]

## JULY

S 1 Mine eyes have seen the Lord.  
M 2 Abide in Me, and I in you.  
T 3 The Spirit also helpeth us in infirmities.  
W 4 Ye are the salt of the Living God.  
T 5 I love them that love Me.  
F 6 Reckon yourselves to be dead unto sin.  
S 7 To him give all the prophets witness.  
M 8 That ye might be confirmed in working with  
T 9 It is God that justifieth. [them.]  
W 10 Is there anything too hard for Me?  
T 11 Add to godliness brotherly kindness,  
W 12 Goodness, and courtesy—mighty in works.  
T 13 With love, and with a sound conscience. [them.]  
S 14 Thou art the God of my salvation.  
M 15 Called unto the fellowship of Jesus.  
T 16 I will love Thee, O Lord.  
W 17 The Son of God gave himself for me.  
T 18 They overcame by the word of their  
F 19 Love is strong as death. [testimony.]  
W 20 He will hear and answer thee.  
T 21 Seek ye Me, and ye shall live.  
S 22 The gift of God is exceeding great.  
M 23 Behold, I come bearing fruit.  
T 24 The gift of God is eternal life.  
W 25 Love the Lord with all thy soul.  
T 26 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable  
M 27 Gift. How exceeding great? [testimony.]  
F 28 The Blood of Jesus cleaneth us from  
S 29 Sanctified in Christ Jesus. [sir]  
M 30 The love of Christ constraineth us.  
T 31 Exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

## AUGUST

W 1 A friend loveth at all times. [mouth.]  
T 2 Let not argument come out of your  
F 3 If God be for us, who can be against us?  
S 4 Freely ye have received, freely give.  
M 5 We have been called unto liberty.  
T 6 Perfect love casteth out fear.  
W 7 Take up thy cross and follow Me.  
T 8 The love of God is perfect.  
M 9 With all the getting get understanding.  
F 10 Better is it to get wisdom than gold.  
S 11 Her ways are past finding out.  
M 12 Called unto the mark of glory.  
T 13 Distracted from fear in love.  
W 14 Lord, I believe, help Thou mine unbelief.  
T 15 The Word of the Lord endureth for ever.  
F 16 Jesus died for us all.  
S 17 I will see the Lord with my whole  
M 18 heart in my hiding place.  
T 19 Throw away the mark for the prize.  
W 20 Love ye your enemies.  
T 21 The Father himself setteth you.  
W 22 He will hear thy backsliding.  
F 23 As for God, His way is perfect. [evermore.]  
S 24 Yet have ye not returned unto Me.  
T 25 I will heal their backsliding.  
M 26 Come hither unto the thick of grass.  
T 27 Let me see thy perfect work.  
S 28 I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength.  
W 29 In the Lord Jehovah is my strength.  
T 30 Looking for the appearance of our Saviour.  
F 31 Return unto Me. I have redeemed thee.